

ÉDITION DE LUXE

No. 832

NOV. 7, 1895

THE GRAPHIC.

AN
ILLUSTRATED
WEEKLY
NEWSPAPER.



STRAND

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LONDON

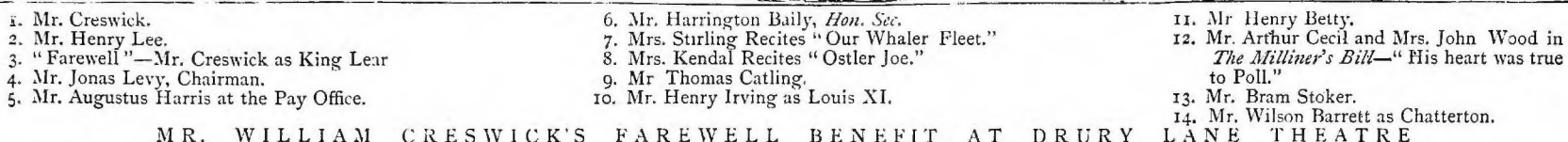
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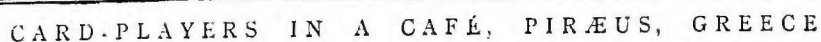
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1885

WITH EXTRA SUPPLEMENT

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MR. WILLIAM CRESWICK'S FAREWELL BENEFIT AT DRURY LANE THEATRE



Topics of the Week

DISESTABLISHMENT AND THE LIBERAL PARTY.—There can be no doubt that considerable injury has been done to the Liberal cause by the raising of the question of Disestablishment. It is now certain, indeed, that no attempt will be made in the next Parliament to settle the controversy, even if the Liberals should have an overwhelming majority. On that point Mr. Gladstone has spoken out distinctly, and Mr. Chamberlain has also declared that the final decision must be postponed. The cry of "the Church in danger" has, however, alarmed many Churchmen who are also sound Liberals, and it is probable that some of them will abstain from voting at the General Election rather than vote for any candidate who has committed himself to the policy of the Liberation Society. The Radicals are very angry with Lord Salisbury for having, as they pretend, forced this question upon the attention of the electors. In reality, the responsibility does not rest upon Lord Salisbury, but upon the Radicals themselves. When the electoral agitation began, it was assumed by a large number of Radical candidates that the question of Disestablishment had at last come within the range of practical politics; and Mr. Chamberlain himself expressed his conviction that the wealth of the Church ought to be used for the creation of a system of free education. The tone of the Radical leader and of most of his followers has since been changed; but that has been due simply to the fact that there has been a very striking manifestation of public opinion in favour of the National Church. The lesson is not likely to be forgotten by the Liberation Society, and those who sympathise with its objects. Even they must now perceive that Disestablishment is not such an easy business as they fancied, and that many a day must elapse before their ideas are adopted by a united Liberal party.

HAMPSTEAD HEATH EXTENSION.—The public is by this time pretty well acquainted with the merits of this case. Still, some of the more prominent facts may with advantage be here restated. Between Hampstead Heath and the north-western suburbs of London there lies a tract of ground, somewhat under 300 acres in extent, of remarkable beauty and picturesqueness. Unless something is speedily done to prevent such a calamity, this tract of land will certainly, before the end of the century, be covered with houses, and the opportunity of securing a charming public pleasure-ground will have been lost for ever. A committee was formed for the purpose of stirring up public opinion on the subject, and towards the end of the summer a garden party was given on Parliament Hill. This innocent little festivity did more, perhaps, than anything else to impress upon Londoners the value of this beautiful oasis of verdure. Then the Metropolitan Board of Works were asked to buy the land. They have declined on the plea that too high a price is demanded. For his fifty-six acres Sir Spencer Wilson wants 100,000*l.*; for his two hundred and twenty-six acres Lord Mansfield (it is said, for there is no distinct evidence of this) wants 250,000*l.* It is quite likely that if real negotiations were begun, the owners would accept less than this sum, but even if they stood out for the whole amount, the interest on the purchase-money (14,000*l.* at 4 per cent.) would be defrayable by a rate of less than one-eighth of a penny in the pound. This is a matter in which all the inhabitants of Great Babylon may justly feel equally interested for Londoners are constantly shifting their habitations, and he who was a Brixtonian at Michaelmas may be a Camden-tonian at Christmas. What is needed, therefore, is a long pull, a strong pull, and a pull all together. The committee above referred to propose, we understand, to promote a Bill in Parliament for the purchase of these properties; and if Londoners generally will signify to the representatives whom they are about to send to Parliament that they wish to have these fields preserved from the builder, the Board of Works must necessarily bow to such an expression of public opinion.

THE SCHOOL BOARD CONTEST.—The mighty heart of London was not visibly stirred, it must be confessed, last Monday. Yet the election of fit and proper persons to superintend the education of myriads of poor children is a weighty matter. Have we secured the fit and proper persons? Time will show. There is a large infusion of fresh blood, and that may help to put a curb on the extravagant propensities of the old members. It has unfortunately happened before now, however, that members returned as strict economists have gradually developed very spendthrift ideas, under the stimulus afforded by a practically inexhaustible purse. We do not feel quite confident, therefore, that the new men who have been professing themselves champions of retrenchment will invariably act up to their engagements. They know that economy is extremely distasteful to every one employed under the Board, especially the teaching staff, and, if they are desirous of re-election, they will scarcely show themselves over eager to give offence in such powerful quarters. However, we hope for the best; the old Board had many merits, and, if the new members only serve as a check on extravagant tendencies, there will be no disposition on the part of the public to insist on cheeseparing. Could it be managed, great advantage would accrue, we think, from the Education

Department restricting the annual expenditure of the Board to a given sum, proportionate to the number of children at school. Were that done, the education imparted would probably be quite as good as that now given, while the rate-payers would experience a great sense of relief in the knowledge that there was at last some real limit to expenditure. The borrowing powers of the Board should also be placed under restriction. Considering the short time it has existed, it has shown as much alacrity in piling up debt as a Central American Republic whose credit has not been exhausted.

ENGLAND AND THE EASTERN QUESTION.—It is still uncertain whether the troubles in South-Eastern Europe will be peacefully settled, but in the mean time there is at least one aspect of the question upon which Englishmen may fairly congratulate themselves, and that is that there is no important difference of opinion on the subject in this country. The Conservative Government is doing what it can to secure the union of Bulgaria and Eastern Roumelia, and it is also exercising its influence to prevent Servia and Greece from rushing into war. If the Liberals had been in power, they would have adopted the same policy; and they frankly admit that the course taken by Lord Salisbury has their cordial approval. Does not this suggest that the difference between the two parties at the time of the Berlin Congress was not really so vital as most Liberals supposed? The Liberals then maintained that the Conservatives were trying to crush the aspirations of the "nationalities" of the Balkan Peninsula, but the Conservatives never admitted that this was a true account of their action. Their object, they contended, was simply to prevent Russia from gaining a position which would make it easy for her to conquer Constantinople. That the "nationalities" had a right to claim a good system of government, and, if they could not get it, to agitate for independence, the Conservatives did not dispute. They only insisted that Russia should not be allowed to establish supremacy in these regions. However this may be, it is highly satisfactory that the old disputes have not been revived; and we may now hope that in future England will be able to deal with the Eastern Question without internal dissensions.

HYDROPHOBIA.—Even now there are some incredulous people who assert that the terrible disease called hydrophobia is due, not to the infection caused by a poisonous bite, but to the terror aroused in the mind of the person bitten. He broods, they say, incessantly over the incident, until at length this peculiarly distressing malady is developed. This theory may hold good in some instances, but it cannot be true in others. Children, for example, far too young for indulgence in these dismal apprehensions, have nevertheless undoubtedly died of hydrophobia after being bitten by dogs. At all events, whatever hydrophobia may be, it has of late become alarmingly prevalent, and we are glad to see that the police have been ordered to exercise additional strictness in looking after stray dogs. For we must confess that we feel rather sceptical about the value of M. Pasteur's alleged discovery, great as is his reputation in other directions. Can he certainly prove that the patients whom he is treating would have gone mad if nothing had been done for them; or, on the other hand, can he prove that sufficient time has as yet elapsed to ensure their safety? As regards the first point, it is possible that, judging from the analogy of scarlet and typhoid fever, only a certain percentage of persons are susceptible to the poison of rabies. Mr. Scoborio, the manager of the Dogs' Home at Battersea, was bitten hundreds of times in the course of his duties without ill effects. Yet perhaps no man in England had a better chance of making acquaintance with the teeth of a mad dog than he. Nor can we quite credit the story of M. Pasteur's patient being bitten fourteen times by a mad dog. It sounds very "steep." Mad dogs don't worry their victims; they snap suddenly, and then go on their lonely way.

THE MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS.—It is said, truly enough, that the results of municipal elections afford a very uncertain test of the political opinions current at the time. The electorates differ so widely, and there are generally such a number of local influences at municipal contests, that it is almost impossible to bring the two into the same field for comparison. More than ever is this the case now that the Parliamentary electorate is increased by some two millions of voters, few of whom have any part in municipal affairs. It is probably due to reflections of this sort that the Tory successes last Monday have given rise to very little "crowing." There is joy in the Conservative heart, but it is of a subdued sort, like that of a short-winded man who, after accomplishing a tenth of a stiff ascent, looks back, and inwardly congratulates himself that at all events so much of the journey lies behind him. But the Parliamentary mountain still remains frowning overhead, and even the most confident Tories show a certain doubtfulness whether they are equal to the feat. The most remarkable feature of the municipal struggle is that, on this occasion, Conservatism has gained ground in the more Northern parts of England, especially in Lancashire. Leeds remains true to Liberalism, while York has apparently become quite converted to that creed. But Liverpool, Manchester, Salford, Birkenhead, and Chester have gone Tory to a large extent. At all of these towns, the fight was waged on almost purely political grounds, the two parties employing the same electoral machinery as at Parliamentary contests. So far, therefore,

as the municipal constituencies go, it may be accepted that a Conservative reaction has begun in the North. But it is impossible to say whether it extends to that inscrutable factor, the agricultural labourer. He is the Sphinx of the hour, and if all the mayors, aldermen, common councilmen, and Gogs and Magogs in the kingdom were to plump for the same party, he could, if he pleased, overrule their judgment, and bring in the opposite side. It is an odd thought, and the public have not yet grown accustomed to it, that Hodge, the long despised, is our master.

ARMED POLICEMEN.—This is a queer country, and till the other day everybody might possess revolvers except the only people who really wanted such weapons, namely, the police. It is evident that if robbers make a practice of carrying "shooting irons" (as the Americans used to call them) the police will be powerless, unless similarly equipped. It is satisfactory, therefore, to learn that the Essex magistrates (impressed by the murder of Inspector Simmonds at Romford) have decided to arm with revolvers for night duty those constables who are stationed on the metropolitan frontier, where villains are most likely to be found. The loss of life and injuries caused by the Netherby desperadoes—one of whom, by the way, is said to have been concerned in the Romford incident—might have been avoided, if the night-patrols had been invariably armed with revolvers. With respect to the burglary itself, one cannot help recalling the Scriptural maxim, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where thieves break through and steal." When a private individual keeps 30,000*l.* worth of portable and highly-valuable property in a bedroom it is really offering a premium to criminals. The suggestion may sound Utopian, but a great deal of temptation would be avoided if watch-cases were invariably made of some comparatively valueless material, and still more, if all jewellery were adjudged to be State property, and were made legally unsaleable all over the world. Owners of valuables would escape from the carking anxieties which they now endure, and every woman in her turn would have the opportunity of wearing magnificent *parures* which are now jealously hidden away in caskets for months at a time.

THE RUSSIAN NAVY.—The Czar has a new hobby. Tired, apparently, of costly conquests in Central Asia, he is now turning attention to the augmentation of his naval forces. No longer shall a scornful Bismarck ridicule the idea of the Russian elephant fighting with the British whale. No longer shall Britannia boast that she rules the waves. Before many years elapse, the Vikings of the icy North will sail forth in scores of huge ironclad "dragons," and the British tar, shivering his timbers, may consider his occupation gone. Not only has a new armour-plated cruiser, constructed at a Russian dockyard of Russian materials, been added to the Imperial Navy, but quite a dozen of other craft are ordered to be constructed, all for the benefit of England and for the peace of the world. As one of the illustrious officers who were present at the launch of the *Admiral Nakhimoff* pleasantly remarked, "England will never be Russia's true friend and ally until the Russian fleet is equal to that of England." Now we know, therefore, the price that we are expected to pay for the love of our Northern admirer. We have merely to cease shipbuilding, and the Czar will make all possible haste to equalise matters on the ocean. It is to be feared that our present rulers do not quite recognise the advantages of the bargain thus offered. In a spirit of downright "cussedness" they are laying down new monsters, hurrying forward those in course of completion, and in other ways largely increasing the fighting strength of the Navy. It follows, therefore, that as we build very much quicker than Russia, we shall be farther ahead of her than ever by the time her new vessels are finished. Clearly M. Lessar must again be called in to experiment once more with his patent "ethnographical" specific for the creation of friendly relations between England and Russia. It is true that, ever since he left London, he has been boasting about the clever way in which he "diddled" British diplomacy over the Zulfikar affair. But we repose such perfect confidence in his capacity for adapting himself to circumstances, that we make no doubt whatever he would not be a week in England before he flattered our wounded *amour propre* by representing himself as the diddled.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL.—On Tuesday Mr. Chamberlain referred to the remarkable change which has lately taken place, not only in the manner but in the substance of Lord Randolph Churchill's speeches. Not very long ago Lord Randolph posed as the leader of what he pleased to call the Tory Democracy. No one perfectly understood what the words "Tory Democracy" meant; but it was clear that they implied something which old-fashioned Conservatives did not, and could not, heartily like. The brilliant young champion of the ideas—or what he supposed to be the ideas—of Lord Beaconsfield was to introduce a new era in the history of Conservatism. He was not merely to compete with the Radicals, but to outbid them, in the attempt to win the favour of the working classes; and rapid strides were to be made towards the establishment of a system closely resembling Prince Bismarck's State Socialism. Now we hear nothing of all this from Lord Randolph Churchill. Recently, indeed, he made some concessions on the question

of free education and the compulsory purchase of land for allotments and small holdings; but he did so in a rather timid manner, and on other questions he has been talking with as much caution as Lord Idlesleigh himself, the most prudent of statesmen, has ever displayed. The truth seems to be that the pressure of opinion in the Conservative party has been too strong even for Lord Randolph Churchill. There is nothing to prevent Conservatives from carrying out moderate reforms; but their business as a party is rather to resist what they consider rash proposals than to initiate great schemes of social and political progress. Any so-called Conservative, therefore, who tries to overcome the Radicals by outbidding them, must in the end find that there is no room for him in the Tory ranks. He must either change his party or consent to move at a slower pace. A good many politicians foresaw some time ago that this would be shown in Lord Randolph Churchill's case; but few of them expected that it would be proved quite so soon.

FAIR TESTS FOR THE TIMES.—The revolt among the Whigs and Moderate Liberals has now assumed such magnitude that it would go hard with the chance of a Liberal victory were the elections taken in the old constituencies. It matters not, for practical purposes, who it was that raised the burning questions of Disestablishment, Free Education, and the creation of Peasant Proprietorships at the expense of the general community. Most people think that Mr. Chamberlain did so; but he seems inclined to place the responsibility on Tory shoulders. Let that pass; the matter with which the Liberal leaders have to deal is that these questions cannot be set to sleep again by telling disquieted minds to dwell on the Hawarden Manifesto. What Moderate Liberals demand is authoritative assurance that, if any unaccredited person brings forward either of these "reforms" in the new Parliament, all the leaders, Radical as well as Whig, will offer resolute and single-minded opposition. Lord Hartington has given the required pledge in regard to Disestablishment; but Mr. Gladstone's letter palpably evades it, while Lord Derby, Mr. Chamberlain, and Sir Charles Dilke have spoken in a way to justify the assumption that they hold themselves in readiness to be squeezed. Under these circumstances the Moderate Liberals are acting well within their rights by seeking to bind Liberal candidates by test questions. It is being demanded of them whether they will vote for or against Disestablishment during the lifetime of the new Parliament; and, in some instances, a similar query is put in connection with Free Education. The *Times*, which speaks out, for once in a way, with no uncertain voice, declares that, in the event of an unsatisfactory answer being given by the Liberal candidate, and a satisfactory one by the Conservative, the Moderate Liberal should vote for the latter. Nor is there much doubt that this honest advice will be largely acted on unless Mr. Gladstone enters into a definite undertaking, during his Midlothian tour, to taboo Disestablishment. Even that will not suffice to quiet the alarm of Liberal Churchmen without the endorsement of Mr. Chamberlain. Every month makes it more plain that he is destined to lead the Liberal party before long, and the heir apparent must, therefore, be included in the contract as well as the reigning sovereign.

NOTICE.—With this Number is issued an EXTRA SUPPLEMENT of FOUR PAGES, containing an ILLUSTRATED DESCRIPTION of the LONDON BOARD SCHOOLS.

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"THE HISTORY OF A WEEK,"
ILLUSTRATED BY W. SMALL, R.I.

THE EDITION PRINTED WILL BE 560,000.

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MR. CRESWICK'S FAREWELL BENEFIT

A FAREWELL benefit by the members of the theatrical profession was given to Mr. William Creswick, at Drury Lane Theatre, on the afternoon of Thursday, October 29th. The vast interior of the "National" theatre was crammed. As usual on such occasions, the entertainment was representative of every branch of the dramatic art, comprising, as it did, selections from the *School for Scandal*, *Chatterton*, *Louis XI.*, and *Human Nature*, besides recitations by Mrs. Kendal and Mrs. Stirling. But the chief attraction of the performance was a scene from *King Lear*, in which Mr. Creswick

as the ill-starred monarch, was received with intense enthusiasm. Our illustrations show, besides some of the theatrical scenes portraits of several influential members of the Creswick Committee as, for example, Mr. Jonas Levy, the Chairman; Mr. Henry Betty, who is always to the fore when any deserving member of the theatrical profession needs help; Mr. Augustus Harris, who gave the use of his theatre; Mr. Henry Lee; and Mr. Harrington Baily, the Secretary of the Committee.

Mr. William Creswick was born in 1813, and made his first London appearance in a piece of Douglas Jerrold's, called *The Schoolfellow*, in 1835, at the Queen's Theatre (now Prince of Wales's), in Tottenham Street. His first essay in 'Shakespearean drama' was at Sadler's Wells, in 1846. Since then he has had an uniformly successful career. His later triumphs have been won at the Antipodes, where he is a great favourite.—Our portrait of Mr. Creswick is from a photograph by Foster and Martin, Collins Street East, Melbourne.

A GREEK CAFÉ

THIS is a sketch at a *café* at Piræus, the seaport of Athens, and conveys a good idea of life and costume in a Greek town, where the style of dress for men is as varied and picturesque as it is monotonous and matter-of-fact in Western Europe. Witness the voluminous petticoats of the Ionian on the left, and the more sober costumes of the turbaned Turk on the right and of the Greeks in the background. The illustration is from a drawing by Mr. J. Finnemore, who writes: "The party are card-playing, and the old man, having had the best of the game, is surprised to see his younger opponent produce the card of the pack, the winning ace, which he had firmly believed had already been played out."

WORKING LADS' INSTITUTE

THOUSANDS of lads, many of them from the country, are employed daily in London warehouses and shops as errand boys, apprentices, factory hands, &c. Most of them work hard from 8 A.M. till about 7 P.M., but thenceforward until bedtime their time is their own. It is during these hours of leisure that youths are especially liable to temptation, and, without endorsing all the prejudices of serious-minded people against theatres and music halls, it must be admitted, even by men of the world, that there are numerous places of amusement where lads are likely to learn harm rather than good. To give them therefore a place of healthy recreation the Working Lads' Institute was established about eight years ago in Whitechapel, and the concern has thriven so greatly that a larger and far more commodious building has lately been erected opposite the London Hospital, and adjoining the East London Railway Station. The new building contains rooms for classes, for mechanical employments, and for refreshments; besides which there is a lecture hall, a gymnasium, and a swimming bath. The purchase of the freehold site has involved a heavy expense, and contributions towards its defrayal will be thankfully received either by the Treasurer, Mr. Frank A. Bevan, of 54, Lombard Street, E.C., or by the Hon. Secretary, Mr. Henry Hill, 38, Bow Lane, E.C. The new building was opened last Saturday by the Princess of Wales; the Prince of Wales, Prince Albert Victor, Princess Louise of Wales, the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, and various other persons of distinction being present. One of our illustrations represents ladies and children presenting purses to the Princess of Wales on behalf of the building fund.

A LAND LEAGUE HUNT

THESE sketches may be best explained by a leaf from Constable P. Murphy's note-book:—"Left Ballynamuck at 1.30 A.M. for Mushroom Hill, to prevent a Land League Hunt taking place. Twenty Irish miles. March to the mountain. Crowd assembled with dogs. Men all armed with bludgeons. We are 'to prevent a breach of the peace, and to take notes of all we see.' Begor, we'd want a powerful big note-book. I wonder would it be a breach of the peace to break my rifle over that returned Yankee blagyard's head? *Mem.* Ask the Head when we go home. 12.30 P.M. Raining like the devil. No more note-taking. The boys have just killed a hare, after a fine course of fifty yards. There were ten dogs at it, but a big fellow, for fear it would escape, gave it a 'polthogue' with a wattle. The League will have fine soup these times. It is very cold. What the devil did they send us for I'd like to know. I wish I was back in Ballynamuck again. The rain is making porridge of my notes. No whisky, and tobacco wet!"

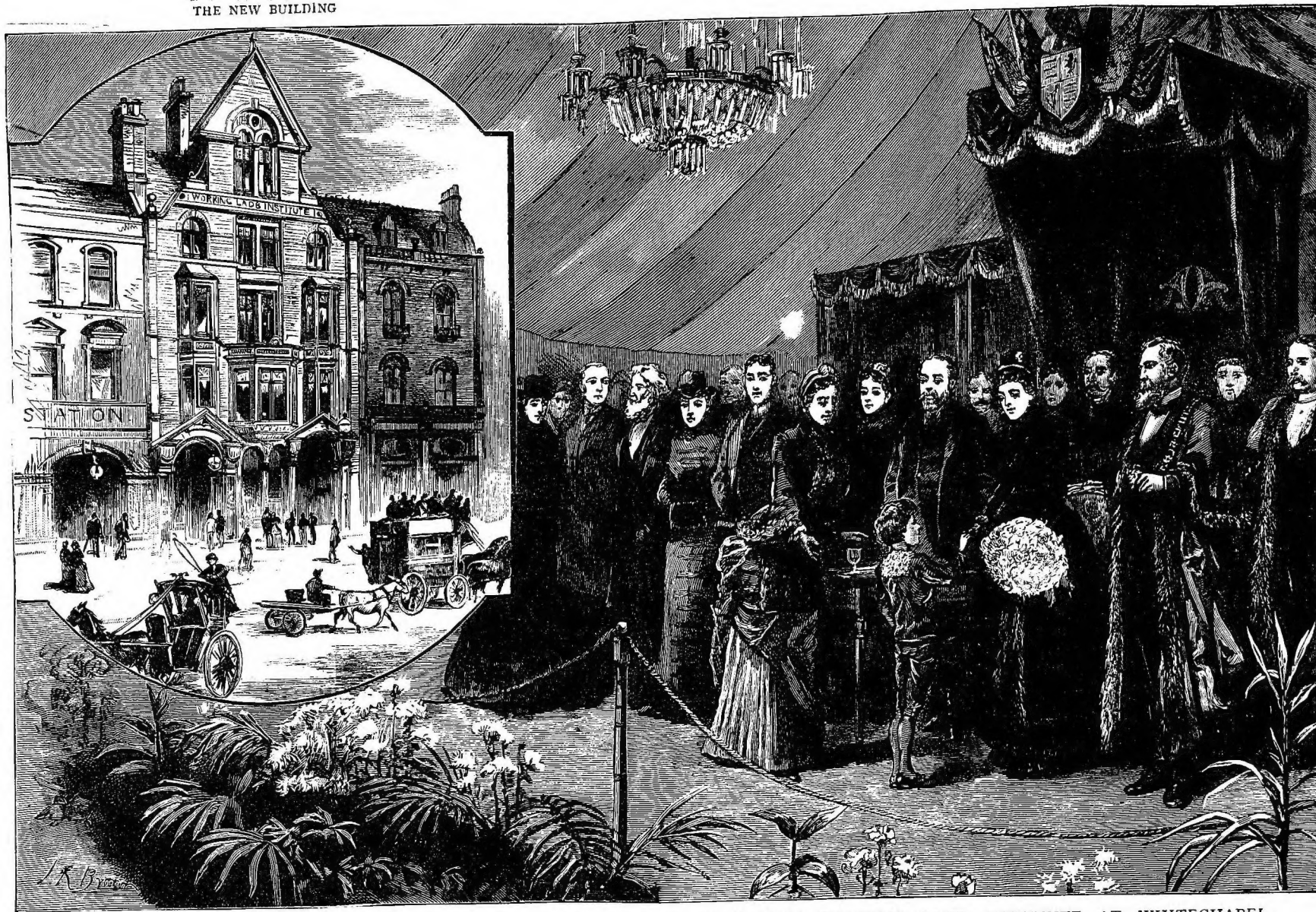
MR. F. ROWSELL, C.B., C.M.G.,

WHOSE death recently took place at the Grosvenor Hotel, was born in 1838; entered the Admiralty as a clerk 1855; was called to the Bar of the Middle Temple 1862; and was appointed Director of Naval Contracts 1870-9. He was also a member of the Royal Commission to inquire into the Administrative Departments of the Courts of Justice 1873-4; and discharged his duties in this connection with such marked tact and ability that he was appointed sole Commissioner to inquire into the Fiscal and Administrative Accounts of the Government of Malta in 1877, and a member of the Rolls Commission on the same subject in 1877-8. He was at the same time appointed a member of the Committee of Inquiry into the Post-Office supplies, and sole Commissioner to inquire into the London Workhouse Contracts. For his arduous services in these different employments he was rewarded in 1879 with the Companionship of the Bath, at the early age of forty, and with the highly responsible post of British Commissioner for the Egyptian State Domains, which he held to the date of his death. He had been in ill health for some time, and had come to England for a change of air; but, after rallying a little during the voyage, he suffered from a relapse, and died shortly after landing in this country. He was one of the most capable and brilliant officials in the public service of England, and it will be difficult indeed to replace him as the British representative in the administration of the Egyptian State domains. His death also causes an irreparable void in the European society of Cairo, in which, on account of his high character, his great intellectual distinction, and his ready, but always kindly and playful wit, he was a conspicuous and always welcome figure. He never spared himself in any work with which he was entrusted, was ungrudgingly helpful to others, and equally a favourite with the French, the native Egyptians, and his own countrymen. He was appointed Companion of St. Michael and George in 1880, and at the time of his death the highest honours open to public servants in the Civil Departments of the State were open to him. He married, in 1882, Harriet Emily, daughter of W. T. Lancaster, Esq., of Stamford Hill, who, with several children, survives him. Mr. Rowsell was a nephew of Canon Rowsell.—Our portrait is from a photograph by O. Schoefft, Cairo, Egypt.

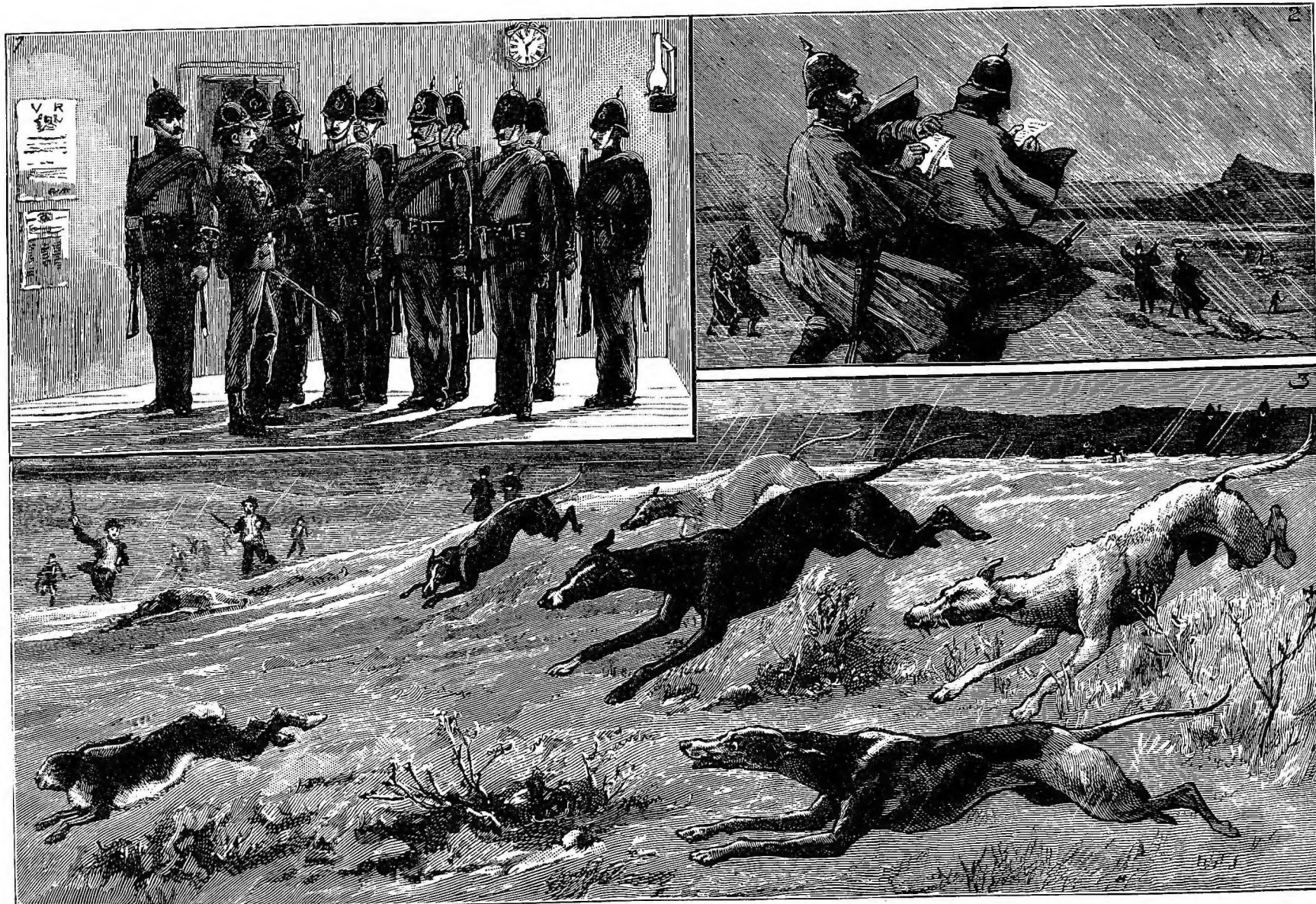
M. TRICOUPIS

FEW Greek statesmen are so well-known out of their own country as M. Tricoupis. For three years—until last May, when he was overthrown on a fiscal question—he had conducted the affairs of the kingdom as Premier, with the result of increased prestige abroad and enhanced prosperity at home. The mere fact that he continued in office for years instead of for a few months—the usual duration of a Hellenic Ministry—is a proof in itself that M. Tricoupis possessed the confidence of his countrymen—a confi-

THE NEW BUILDING



THE PRINCESS OF WALES RECEIVING PURSES AFTER OPENING THE NEW WORKING LADS' INSTITUTE AT WHITECHAPEL



1. Before We start for our twenty mile Drive to Mushroom Hill We are paraded and instructed "to take Notes of all We may see, and to prevent a Breach of the Peace."

2. Taking Notes under Difficulties.

3. "Thirteen Hares were killed after a most enjoyable Day's Sport (!?) and in a most sportsmanlike manner" (*Fide* Local Newspaper).

A LEAF FROM CONSTABLE PATRICK MURPHY'S NOTE-BOOK AFTER A LAND LEAGUE HUNT NEAR BALLYNAMUCK



MR. F. W. ROWSELL, C.B., C.M.G.
 Director of the Domains in Egypt.
 Born 1833. Died September 4, 1885.



M. TRICOUPIS
 Ex-Prime Minister of Greece



AN AMATEUR JAPANESE FAIR AT NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE

dence which he repaid by restoring order in the administration of provincial affairs, reforming the civil service, reorganising the finances, raising the strength of the army from 12,000 to 30,000 men and thoroughly organising the Administration in the newly-annexed Thessalian province, which Greece obtained by the Treaty of Berlin. This last task was one of no small difficulty. The country then given over to brigandage is now as safe as an English county. Not a single road then existed, but the province is now traversed from end to end by a railway line, and covered with a network of carriage-roads. Like President Cleveland, M. Tricoupis is a great opponent of the "spoils for the victors" doctrine; and a correspondent of the *Times* tells us that he has lost many adherents by refusing to favour his friends when in office, while he has not hesitated to retain personal enemies in office when he would have been better served by his friends. Thus the austerity and high sense of justice which he has displayed have earned for him the sobriquet of the Modern Aristides, and have made for him a few devoted friends, but many bitter enemies. As may be naturally supposed, he holds very strong Nationalist views with regard to the action of Greece during the present crisis. Speaking at a dinner recently given him by the Greek community of London, he warmly urged that the free development of Hellenism should not be fettered. "The Greek State," he declared, "is bound to concern itself in the fate of the Greeks in Eastern Roumelia; it is bound to interest itself in Macedonia; and has the right to demand that any change in the established order of things in the Balkan Peninsula shall not result disadvantageously to the Hellenic race in Macedonia, either by direct action there, or through the comparative weakening of Hellenism." He admitted that the goodwill of Europe was necessary for any definitive result to be obtained; but quoted the chief incidents in Modern Greek History to show that such goodwill was always obtained by the initiative in action and perseverance. On returning to Athens last week M. Tricoupis was welcomed by an enormous crowd. Addressing them from the balcony of his house, he deprecated all party strife at the present juncture, but declared that the "country must not cease from action until the dangers which were threatening Macedonia had been averted, and the future of Hellenism assured."—Our portrait is from a photograph by W. and D. Downey, 57 and 61, Ebury Street, S.W.

A JAPANESE FAIR AT NEWCASTLE

THIS Japanese Fair was recently held in the St. George's Drill Hall, Newcastle. The spacious building was fitted up as a Japanese village *en fête*, being lined on either side with stalls in the form of Japanese shops, while in the centre stood kiosks for the sale of fruit, flowers, and cigars, and a band-stand overshadowed by one of the largest Japanese umbrellas ever imported into this country—fifty-four feet in circumference. A temple at one extremity of the hall formed the refreshment stall, while the other end was laid out as a tea-garden, decorated with choice-leaved plants. Behind this two theatres were erected, each capable of holding 250 people, in which performances were given every half-hour by Japanese acrobats, conjurers, and others. The stall-holders, both ladies and gentlemen, were in Japanese costumes.

The result of the Fair was a handsome contribution to the funds of All Saints' Church, Gosforth, in aid of which the Fête had been organised.

Our engraving is from a photograph by Mr. Bacon, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

NOTES AT FLORIDA, U.S.A.

FOR the last four years much attention has been drawn to the State of Florida, to which British emigrants of the more well-to-do class have been largely attracted, owing to its charming climate and the marvellous fertility of its soil, which perfectly justifies its name of the "Land of Flowers." Florida lands are usually classed under three heads: pine lands, hammocks (land covered with hard wood), and swamp lands. Under the first head comes the greater portion of the State, which is covered with yellow and pitch pine forests. These lands are very fertile and durable, and in some cases have yielded during fourteen years of cultivation, without manure. Cotton, sugar, rice, grain, tobacco, and all kinds of tropical fruits, especially oranges, are grown there. The great variety of culture for which these lands are available render them of far more value to the farmer than equally good land in the United States. The whole State of Florida covers about 58,000 square miles, of which about one-tenth is occupied by lakes and rivers. The population is about 500,000, and is increasing annually at the rate of 20 per cent. Large speculations in land have been made in the State by Englishmen, and one English company alone holds about 3,500 square miles. Our illustrations are from photographs, kindly forwarded by Mr. William V. Wyllie, of Park House, Maitland, Orange County, Florida, who writes thus:—"Two of them are pictures from Narcoosee, the English colony on East Tohopekaliga, which is going ahead famously, there being at the present time some thirty English there, while more are expected this winter. 'Ploughing' is taken on Mr. B. Watson's land, the subject being the digging of a drain to exhaust a grass-pond. The creek shown connects Lakes Maitland and Otseola, near Winter Park, Florida. This is the lake district, and perhaps the prettiest part of the State. At Winter Park an immense hotel is being built, near which a large college is in course of erection."

INDIAN ARTISANS AT THE MANSION HOUSE

THE success of the Japanese Village at Knightsbridge has prompted the Manager of the Albert Palace, at Battersea, to organise an Indian Village upon the same plan, and a number of artisans of numerous Eastern trades have been brought over from India for this purpose. On Monday week there was a reception of the Indians at the Mansion House by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress. Sir Edward Lee, Chairman of the Albert Palace Company, in introducing them said that they comprised no fewer than twenty-four castes. A short entertainment was then given by a snake-charmer, two Nautch girls, and a juggler, who form part of the company, but Sir Edward Lee was careful to explain that these amusements were merely auxiliary to the whole scheme, the principal object of which was to facilitate the manufacturers of this country by showing what could be done in India by natives with their own appliances. The workmen include weavers from Bombay, the Deccan, and Central India; printers in cotton and silk from Allahabad and Serajpur; embroiderers from Poona, Umritsir, and Scinde; potters from Ahmedabad and Kattywar; jewellers from Kutch, Moradabad, and Sattara; carvers from different places in the Bombay Presidency; musicians from Bombay and Madras; and inlaid box-workers, both Parsees, from Surat. The performers, male and female, come from very widely separated parts of India—Delhi, Belgaum, Poona, Dharwar, Hyderabad in the Deccan, the Carnatic, and the Berars. The Nautch girls are a Mahomedan from Delhi, and a Hindoo from the Carnatic, while there is also a dancing boy from Delhi. In religion the workmen are either Mahomedan or Hindoo, though three are Parsees, and two Roman Catholics.

ROUND AND ABOUT INGLEBOROUGH

THE north-west angle of Yorkshire, including the peaks of Ingleborough and Whenside, is easy of access by the Midland Railway, and is well worthy of a visit. Let us alight at the little station of Ribbleshead, and, shouldering our knapsack, take the road to Chapel-le-Dale, which lies in a hollow screened by the limestone scours.

Southey has given a charming description of this spot in "The Doctor." Our great attraction here is the noted Weathercote Cave, which is situated in the grounds of Mr. Metcalf. An immense chasm overhung with fantastic foliage yawns at our feet. We descend a rude flight of steps, and involuntarily pause under a natural archway of rock. The precipice in front is over a hundred feet in height, and from a cavern about thirty feet below the summit issues a torrent which falls down a cleft in the rocks to a deep subterranean passage, whence it appears again a mile away. A cloud of spray pervades the air, and nourishes the wonderful vegetation that clothes the massive cliffs. In flood time the sight is terrific, the whole appearing as a vast boiling cauldron.

From Weathercote to Ingleton is about four miles along the course of the River Greta; right and left of the valley are vast limestone ridges, resembling fortifications in their regularity of structure.

Ingleton is picturesquely enough situated, but has a very cold and bleak aspect. Some of the adjacent glens and valleys, however, are charming. "Fairy glens," cascades, and waterfalls meet the eye at every turn. The Pecca Falls and Thornton Force are especially romantic and impressive, the surrounding heights adding much to their majestic appearance.

Four miles from Ingleton the train takes us to Clapham, one of the prettiest villages in England, with its clear trout stream, rustic bridges, flower-embowered cottages, and luxuriant foliage. Near here is the celebrated Ingleborough Cave. In one part the roof is almost geometrically planned, and fretted with stalactites, reminding us of some old cathedral aisle. Here a stalagmite, like some ghostly statue, rises in the gloom.

There are beehives, bird-cakes, fortifications, and all sorts of fanciful resemblances; stalactites which drip perpetually, and others which, when struck, emit a musical note. The greater part of the cave is quite accessible to ladies. The ascent of Ingleborough is a comparatively easy exploit, but the panorama on a clear day is not one to be missed, as the eye ranges over several counties from the mountains of the Lake district to those of Wales. An old beacon still remains on the summit, used no doubt during the incursions of the Scots. Those who have the time to extend their trip are recommended by all means to explore the adjacent valley of the Lune, one of the prettiest rivers in England.

SPRINGBOK HUNTING, SOUTH AFRICA

OF the twenty-two varieties of the antelope family which inhabit South Africa, the springbok is the most common. As from their migratory habits they are very destructive to the pasturage, the hardy sons of the soil regard it a righteous duty, as well as a pleasure, to hunt them down. The hunting is sometimes performed on horse-back, but generally large parties in waggons and carts make a trip of two or three days, and bag hundreds of bucks. That portion of their flesh which is not eaten at the time is dried in slips, and called "biltong." Thus prepared it will keep for months. As its name implies, the springbok is remarkable for the prodigious bounds it makes. A curious circumstance connected with this bounding is that the buck while in full career opens the hair on its back, which is then quite white, and will continue bounding until "winded," when it closes the white hair, and then is easily caught by its pursuer. Trained greyhounds are fully aware of this phenomenon, and act accordingly. The Bushmen, a very diminutive and very degraded race of South Africa, are genuine savages, inasmuch as they neither till the soil, nor keep sheep or cattle, but live by hunting, and devouring bulbs, ants' eggs, and locusts. They mingle with no other race. They are very clever in their "dodges" for capturing game with pitfalls, &c. They use the bow and poisoned arrows, and are unerring marksmen. But they are rapidly diminishing in numbers. Some of them travel northwards. Civilisation would destroy them completely.—Our engravings are from sketches by Mr. H. Caslon Blundell.

THE CRISIS IN THE BALKANS

DR. GEORGE STRANSKY, who is one of the leading spirits of the Bulgarian Revolution, and the President of the Provisional Government, was born in 1848, in the small town of Kalofet, at the foot of the Balkans. He was educated at Bucharest, where he graduated as Doctor of Medicine, and was appointed to the charge of the Municipal Hospital of that town. During the Turko-Serbian War he was chief of the Roumanian Ambulance, near Delligrad. In the subsequent Russo-Turkish War he undertook the important task of organising the Roumanian Hospitals on both sides of the Danube; being also chief of the Roumanian Red Cross Society. Previous to 1876 he was a member of the Bulgarian Revolutionary Committee at Bucharest, in co-operation with Quben Karaveloff, brother of the Minister President. After the war he was elected Deputy for Plevna for the great Assembly at Timova, when the Bulgarian Constitution was duly inaugurated. He subsequently settled at Philippopolis, where he became successively Director of Finance, President of the Gymnastic Society (organised to inculcate the military spirit in the Bulgarian people), Deputy to the Provincial Assembly, President of the Permanent Committee, which was dissolved by the Governor-General, and lastly, Member of the Revolutionary Committee which brought about the recent revolution.

Gabriel Cristovich, the expelled Governor-General of Eastern Roumelia, was born in Kotel. Under the patronage of Bogoridis he was educated in Paris, and for many years was member of the Turkish law courts in Constantinople. Ultimately he was sent by the Sultan as Secretary-General to Aleko Pasha, whom he succeeded in superseding, through the intrigues of Russia's agent.

The military chaplain shown is Deacon Verban, one of the Bulgarian clergyman who assisted in the revolution, and now acts as chaplain to one of the regiments.

The group of portraits shows the Secret Bulgarian Revolutionary Committee ("the conspirators"), consisting of Zachary Stoyanoff; Rizoff, a Macedonian, from Monastir, the one who holds the inkstand; Andonoff the one who is writing; and Stoyanovich, the youngest, and one of the most active members of the committee. The last is Captain Panitza, a young officer who was deprived of his office by the late Governor-General for partisanship. Mr. Courteff is the leader of a band of volunteers now waiting on the Macedonian frontier to enter that province on the first signal from the Prince. Mr. Courteff was at the defence of Shipka in 1877; he organised the meetings of last spring in favour of Macedonia. One of our illustrations shows the costume of a Macedonian volunteer. The lady we engrave is the heroine, Nedelyn Stoyanoff, a girl student from the Girls' Lycée of Philippopolis, at the age of eighteen years. She was born in the village of Konary, north-west of Philippopolis. She escorted the Governor-General with drawn sword in hand whilst his Excellency was being conveyed through the streets.—Our portraits are from photographs by M. Cavraff, Philippopolis. The illustration of Bulgarian transport waggons halting by the way, and which explains itself, is from a sketch by M. Antoine Piotrowski.

LONDON BOARD SCHOOLS

See pp. 517 *et seqq.*

"FIRST PERSON SINGULAR"

MR. DAVID CHRISTIE MURRAY's New Story, illustrated by Arthur Hopkins, is continued on page 521.

BALL AT THERAPIA

WHEN the spring sun begins to make the streets of Constantinople too warm to be comfortable for Western constitutions, the whole Diplomatic world retreats up the Bosphorus to the village of Therapia, where the various Embassies and Legations have their summer quarters—with the exception of the Russian Ambassador, who establishes himself at the neighbouring village of Baoukdedere. The various foreign despatch boats lie off their respective Embassies, and during the summer—when business is slack—there is a constant round of gaiety, each nation giving balls, parties, or picnics in turn. Our sketches represent some incidents at one of these balls, at which the mixture of nationalities and of classes, from the beardless sub-lieutenant to the grey-haired Diplomatist, or the fiercely-moustached financier, is productive of considerable amusement. Many of the Levantines, although they have not a drop of English blood in their veins, are British subjects having procured letters of naturalisation for some service rendered, and are consequently more English than the born British citizen. One of their characteristics is a thirst for decorations, and they cannot understand a weather-beaten officer—perhaps the hero of a hundred fights—leaving his well-earned medals in his cabin on an occasion such as this. "Going Home" for a solitary man is not the safest thing at night in a Bosphorus village, as the hills swarm with brigands and bad characters, who would not hesitate to kill a man for a few piastres, or better still, to capture him, and hie away to the mountains, there to hold their victim to a good round ransom. The guest in our illustration is displaying a wise caution in keeping to the middle of the road.

A VOICE FROM SUAKIM.—The following extract from a private letter, dated October 22nd, by a medical officer who has recently joined the forces at Suakim, may interest some of our readers:—"We live in tents inside a palisade; surrounded by camels, a hospital, and a small and strong-smelling bay. Heat, Dust, and Flies; limited allowance of condensed water; and salt water to wash in. Prickly Heat. We expect to have a year of this. The natives, who are called the enemy, prevent one going more than two or three miles from the walls, so there is no shooting, as I had hoped. But there is lots of fishing; and I'm looking out for a boat. We've only about 3,000 men here now. I don't know why they keep this latest gem in the Imperial Tiara. There's no water, and there are only two trees. Scurvy very bad. I'm trying to get extra meat rations for the Madras troops and followers, as they are all meat-eaters; and this may render them less liable to suffer from the fell disorder. There's lots of small-pox among the townspeople, the poor of whom live in huts crowded together in available open spaces. All the drinking water is condensed by steamers, and I look on this fact as a great protection from cholera. We water our horses at wells half a mile away, protected by a small redoubt. I don't think there will be any more fighting. If there is, my hospital, which is a moveable one, will go out. Last night friendlies were sent out to look after patriots supposed to be lurking at the wells where we water our horses. In the evening I saw Egyptian police handing out bundles of spears for the friendly ones. I only hope the redoubt men didn't shoot them by mistake. To my mind the Layonet is the most terrible of weapons, and I wonder why the glory of it has departed from the British army. All authorities here say that the Hadendawas make their rushes far more vehemently, and much more home, than the Afghan Ghazis. I admire the poor devils; but I hope they won't kill me. I've been dirty for eleven days, and shall remain so for months."



POLITICAL SPEECHES.—Lord Salisbury, who has completely recovered, though his right arm is carried in a sling, made an animated speech to a gathering of South London Conservatives on Wednesday. In what was, perhaps, its most significant passage the Prime Minister defended fiscal retaliation as preferable to the policy which Lord Beaconsfield once described as that of "fighting hostile tariffs with free imports." On the same day, at Glasgow, Lord Idlesleigh spoke modestly of the work of the Royal Commission on the Depression of Trade, saying nothing to which the most straight-laced Free Trader could object, while Mr. Goschen at Brighton, Sir Charles Dilke at Worcester, and Mr. John Morley at Sunderland, accused the Government of coquetting with Fair Trade, which they condemned on the ordinary economic grounds. Prosecuting his oratorical tour in North Lancashire, Lord Hartington this week at Nelson declared that the Liberals could unite on the platform furnished them in Mr. Gladstone's Manifesto, and should leave for after consideration the points on which they differed.—At Birmingham, addressing the electors of the division of the town for which he is a candidate, Mr. Chamberlain spoke tenderly of Lord Hartington, but would never accept the co-operation of Mr. Goschen, or enter a Ministry whose programme did not fulfil what he called the just expectations of the Liberal party.—Migrating from Birmingham to Worcester, Lord Randolph Churchill emphatically denied the truth of Mr. Gladstone's and Lord Hartington's assertion, that it is the Tories who are raising the Disestablishment question, and in disproof of it referred to Mr. Chamberlain's recent proposal to apply the endowments of the Church of England to defray the cost of popular education.—In one of several speeches made by him this week, Sir Michael Hicks-Beach said that, while our general imports were declining, those of foreign manufactured articles remained steady, a statement which has been regarded as foreshadowing his intention, if he remains in office, to propose the imposition of duties on that class of imports.—Speaking at Trowbridge, Mr. W. H. Smith ascribed our vast expenditure, with its depressing influence on trade, to the late Government's lack of a definite foreign policy; while, emerging from his retirement, Lord Granville, at Shrewsbury, defended that policy in detail, and avowed his Liberalism to be identical with that of Mr. John Bright.—In Scotland, evidently alarmed at the division in the Liberal ranks produced by the movement for the Disestablishment of the Kirk, Lord Rosebery has been proclaiming the necessity for union, so that there may be returned to the House of Commons a majority strong enough to defeat a coalition between the Conservatives and the Parnellites.

THE ANNUAL ELECTIONS to fill vacancies in the municipalities of England and Wales took place on Tuesday, after contests which, viewed as a whole, were determined somewhat less than usual by political considerations. The net result was a Conservative gain of between twenty and thirty municipal seats.

THE ELECTION OF THE LONDON SCHOOL BOARD also took place on Tuesday. The result was the rejection, in a general way, of holders of extreme views, whether supporters or opponents of what is known as Board policy. Two "economists" headed the poll in Westminster, and in Chelsea the candidate who represented the advocates of free meals as well as of free education was defeated by a considerable majority. On the new School Board there are fewer ladies than on any previous one.

IRELAND AND THE IRISH.—Lord Spencer, speaking this week at Dorchester, reiterated the expression of his fear that the Govern-

ment would not be able to restore law and order in Ireland without having recourse to exceptional legislation.—The first meeting was held in London this week of the Irish Defence Union, of which the object is to assist all who are suffering in Ireland from illegal coercion, especially boycotting, and the members of which include, in addition to Conservatives, such Liberals as the Duke of Westminster and Mr. W. E. Forster.—A symptom of a revival of Fenianism in Ireland is the assault committed by a party of about forty men armed with sticks who, shouting denunciations of the National League, and giving cheers for the Fenians, attacked Messrs. O'Kelly and Kenny, the Home Rule M.P.'s for Ennis and Roscommon respectively, as they were returning from a Nationalist meeting, near Athlone. Severe injuries were inflicted on some of those of the Nationalists who did not run away, and the two M.P.'s had to take refuge for the night in a house, with a strong party to protect them.

MR. MATTHEW ARNOLD, although requested in a numerously-signed requisition from resident members of the University, has declined to become again a candidate for the Chair of Poetry at Oxford, which he formerly occupied. He assigns as the reason for his refusal his previous expression of a wish that on the occurrence of a vacancy it should be filled by Mr. F. T. Palgrave, who is now one of the candidates for the Chair. Mr. Arnold, it is said, is about to proceed to the Continent, on a mission from the Education Department, to inquire into the working of the free school system in France and Prussia.

DEATHS FROM HYDROPHOBIA have been alarmingly on the increase in the metropolis, the Coroner for West Middlesex having held in that district alone six inquests in as many months on deaths from that cause. The Chief Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police has accordingly issued orders for the detention of stray dogs.

THE DEATH, in his seventy-fifth year, is announced of the Duke of Abercorn, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland from July, 1866, to December, 1868, and from February, 1874, to December, 1876, when he resigned through the ill-health of the Duchess, having won the regard of Irishmen of all political parties, and been raised from the Marquisate to the Dukedom of Abercorn shortly before the downfall of Mr. Disraeli's first Administration in 1868. He had large estates in Ireland, and was very popular with his tenantry, among whom he resided during a considerable portion of the year, and in whose well-being he took an active personal interest. His Grace married in 1832 the second daughter of the sixth Duke of Bedford, and is succeeded by their eldest son, the Marquis of Hamilton, who had for twenty years represented Donegal in the House of Commons when he was defeated at the General Election of 1880.

The death is also announced, at the advanced age of ninety-two, of the sixth Earl of Buckinghamshire, Prebendary of Wolverhampton, who took Holy Orders in 1816, whose eldest surviving son is Hlobart Pasha, Minister of the Turkish Navy, and who is succeeded by his grandson, Viscount Hobart, surviving son of the late Earl's eldest son, well-known as a politician and political writer before his death in 1875. We have further to chronicle the death, in his seventy-seventh year, of Admiral Kuper, who entered the Navy at the age of fourteen, and distinguished himself in the naval operations against the Chinese in 1840-2, against the Taipings in 1862, and was Commander-in-Chief during the bombardments of Kago-sima and Simonosaki, Japan; at about the age of seventy-five, of Dr. Dorian, Roman Catholic Bishop of Down and Connor; in his sixty-third year, of Mr. G. H. Vansittart, formerly Conservative member for Berkshire; in his sixty-ninth year, of the Rev. W. H. Rich Jones, Canon of Salisbury and Vicar of Bradford-on-Avon, the author of various meritorious contributions to the ecclesiastical and other archaeology of Wiltshire; in his seventy-seventh year, of Mr. Robert Leader, President of the Sheffield Liberal Association, and during half-a-century editor and chief proprietor of the *Sheffield Independent*; in his eighty-seventh year, of the Rev. Phillips Mursell, Robert Hall's successor in the pastorate of his Baptist Chapel at Leicester, one of the most eloquent and popular preachers of his communion, a zealous champion of civil as well as religious liberty, who co-operated with Mr. Edward Miall in founding both the Liberation Society and its organ, the *Nonconformist*; in his eighty-first year, of the Rev. Dr. Pirie, Principal of Aberdeen University, for forty years one of the most prominent leaders of the Church of Scotland, the oldest living Moderator of its General Assembly, and its very strenuous supporter during the movement which ended in its disruption; and in his sixty-eighth year, of Mr. Robert Thorburn, A.R.A., the well-known miniature painter.



THE return of the ST. JAMES'S company to town and the opening of their theatre for the winter season always brings together a friendly and a brilliant audience, and rarely fails to provide a cheerful first night. Unfortunately Saturday evening furnished—as far at least as cheerfulness is concerned—a marked exception to the rule. Mr. Piner's attempt to convert M. Sardou's *Maison Neuve*—a satire upon the rage of the Parisian shopkeepers under the Empire for removing from the old dingy thoroughfares to the magnificent new boulevards—into a comedy of English life of the present day is singularly unfortunate. He has endeavoured to ennoble his theme by making his leading personages prosperous stockbrokers who, instead of coveting a new shop with a luxurious flat overhead, sigh for the grandeurs of a residence in May Fair. In so doing, however, the key-note is falsified, and the whole story rendered incomprehensible. *May Fair* is a comedy with a hero and heroine so perverse and contemptible that they exhaust the patience, while they never for a moment secure the sympathies, of the audience. It is not easy to say whether Mr. Roydant, who treats his benefactor with ingratitude and unprovoked insult, and abandons a prosperous business to indulge in idle self-indulgence and foolish gambling speculations, or Mrs. Roydant, who pines for new furniture and gilded saloons, and spends her time in dangerous flirtations, is the more despicable. That Mr. and Mrs. Kendal failed to make these personages acceptable was certainly not entirely their own fault. The incident of the accidental poisoning of the lady's lover in her boudoir in the scene in which Madame Fargueil and Mdlle. Desclée were wont to electrify, if not to charm, their audiences, fails in the English play to excite any feeling but one of repugnance. The best feature in the performance was unquestionably Mr. Hare's highly finished portrait of the old stockbroker Barrable, and Mr. Brookfield's amusing impersonation of the pander and parasite Captain Jekyll.

The new play by Mr. Robert Buchanan and Miss Harriett Jay, originally produced early this year in the United States with the title of *Alone in London*, was brought out for the first time in this country at the OLYMPIC Theatre on the occasion of the reopening of that house under the management of Mrs. Conover on Monday night. It is a tremendous melodrama in four acts and a prologue, demanding "ten tableaux," and setting forth the horrible persecutions suffered by one Mrs. Redcliffe, with her little child, at the hands of her husband, a criminal of a daring and adventurous type. Though the

play is called "realistic," there is little trace to be discerned in it of that vigorous portraiture or freshness of invention which characterises Mr. Buchanan's dramatic poems and stories. It is to be feared that from this point of view the play indicates Mr. Buchanan's low estimate of the requirements of audiences rather than his conception of what a romantic drama ought to be. The play hurries the spectator on from scene to scene of horror and excitement in localities in London or its neighbourhood, which the scenic artists and machinists have depicted and built up with marvellous ingenuity, and few opportunities are neglected for exciting and harrowing the simple-minded playgoer. With all this, and in spite of the pathetic acting of Miss Amy Roselle as the persecuted heroine, and Miss Harriett Jay as a ragged street lad, and the force and sincerity of Mr. Herbert Standing's impersonation of the scoundrel husband, the success of the piece was for some time doubtful. Even at the fall of the curtain, after a strongly dramatic fourth and fifth act, the malcontents were in considerable strength. There are some tokens that the system of piling Pelion upon Ossa in the way of scenic marvels and harrowing incidents is now well-nigh worn out. A simpler story of more concentrated interest set forth with the power that Mr. Buchanan and Miss Jay can exhibit on occasion would probably have secured them a less equivocal verdict.

The *matinée* rage has broken forth again with great intensity. On Tuesday afternoon an original comedy by Messrs. Bagot was produced at the STRAND Theatre, with the title of *The Rubber of Life*; on Wednesday afternoon there was an extensive series of dramatic and musical performances at the Gaiety for the benefit of Mr. Hart; and on Thursday afternoon a new comedy, from the German, called *Money Bags*, was announced to be produced at the NOVELTY.

The performances for the benefit of the widow of the late Mr. Harry Jackson will take place at DRURY LANE on the 21st inst.

The new comic opera, *Erminie*, is to be produced at the COMEDY Theatre on Monday next.

A grand festival will be held in June next at the CRYSTAL PALACE to celebrate the jubilee of Her Majesty's accession to the throne.



THE TURF.—Perhaps no big handicap in the annals of the Turf has been the subject of so much writing and talking as the Cambridgeshire of last week; and it is evident the expenditure of ink and breath is not exhausted yet. One special topic of discussion has been and is the failure of certain animals to do what was expected of them in the race, and all kinds of ingenious if not ingenious reasons have been suggested for their failure. St. Gatien for instance it is said was not pushed forward early enough in the race; Bendigo was "shut in" more than once; and other animals would have rendered a better account of themselves if they had not met with mishaps or been ridden in a different manner to what they were; and so on *ad infinitum*. Still the more sober and peculiarly uninterested critics seem to agree that the French filly, Plaisanterie, won fairly on her merits, and would have won even if all the alleged bad riding and real or supposed mishaps and bad luck had never influenced the race. However unpleasant it may be for our patriotism to acknowledge, the French filly is probably just now the best animal that has run in this country during the present generation. The offer of Mr. Cloete to run Paradox against her over the Cambridgeshire for a very large sum of money was not accepted; and it is easy to understand why; and certainly the offer puts the owner and scratcher of Paradox in a worse position than he stood before. Looking back for a moment at the Newmarket meeting, it may be noted that Despair, the most unlucky disappointing horse that perhaps ever ran on the turf, took his old place of second to Energy in the All-Aged Stakes on the Friday, and again on Tuesday last at Lincoln in the Great Tom Stakes, refusing to struggle when he seemed to have the race in hand. St. Gatien on the Friday at Newmarket won the Jockey Club Cup in a canter after starting at 10 to 1 in a field of four. At Brighton this week the Autumn Handicap was won by the useful Hungarian, though Postscript on recent running was made favourite; at Lincoln the Chaplin Nursery fell to Nubbley Bux, and the Autumn Handicap to Nightcap, Despair not getting a place in a field of six, though he had only 7st. 13lbs. on his back. The well-known but disappointing English horse, The Prince, has joined the Royal Prussian Stud at Graditz. St. Blaise, the aptly named son of Hermit and Fuzee, has recently sailed for America. He won the Derby in 1883, and is the eleventh winner that has crossed the herring-pond to help establish the thoroughbred breed in America. Curiously enough Diomed, the winner of the first Derby in 1780, went to America for the same purpose at the age of 22, and did good service.

COURSING.—At the important Border Union Coursing Meeting the Netherby, for sixty-four of All-Ages, was divided between Mr. Jewell's Miss Jamieson and Mr. Hope Johnstone's Coleraine.

AQUATICS.—Notwithstanding the unfavourable weather, the Fours at Oxford and Cambridge have been busy at practice. At Oxford, on Tuesday last, a Trial Eight was out for the first time under the supervision of the President.

FOOTBALL.—Among recent winners of games in the Association Cup contest have been Nottingham Forest, Clapham Rovers, Brentford, Old Foresters, Queen's Park (Glasgow), Derby County, Swifts, Old Wykehamites, Marlow, Old Westminsters, and Old Carthusians.—Under Association Rules the strong Sussex team has beaten London; Oxford University Aston Villa; Notts the Blackburn Rovers; and Cambridge University Brentwood. Under Rugby Rules South Wales has gallantly beaten Oxford University; Cambridge University United Hospitals; Edinburgh Academicals Bradford; and Richmond Old Millhillsians.

LACROSSE.—Among recent games South Manchester has beaten Cheadle; and Dulwich Southdown.

HUNTING.—A lovely Monday helped to give *delat* to the opening meets of foxhounds, especially those where it is the fashion to show. A large assemblage of carriages with fair occupants, and at least 300 horsemen were present at the famous Kirby Gate with the Quorn, under the mastership of Lord Manners. Many good runs marked the day in various districts, and the vulpine supply seems abundant in all districts, indeed, too abundant in many.

SWIMMING.—The One Thousand Yards Championship of Scotland has been won for the third time in succession by D. Miller. His time was 16 min. 46 sec., the race taking place in the Dundee Public Baths.

DANCING.—What would Terpsichore have thought of dancing being made the medium of a sporting match for filthy lucre's sake? And yet so it is in this age of sweetness and light: Williams and Haslam, celebrities in the male dancing world, having been matched "to dance (Lancashire style) for 100l. a side and the Championship of the World." Perhaps we shall soon hear of a "Go-as-you-please" long-time dancing competition! Why not at the Westminster Aquarium, the chosen home of the modern Muses?



THE ANTWERP EXHIBITION closed last Sunday.

ALTHOUGH THE BRITISH STAGE owes so much to French sources, popular English plays rarely appear on Gallic boards. The *Silver King*, however, has been translated into French, and will shortly be brought out at the Paris Ambigu as *Le Roi de l'Argent*.

THE ONCE MIGHTY EUPHRATES seems likely to disappear altogether, according to the *Times of India*. For some years past the river banks below Babylon have been giving way so that the stream spread out into a marsh, until steamers could not pass, and only a narrow channel remained for the native boats. Now this passage is becoming obliterated, and unless matters improve the towns on the banks will be ruined, and the famous river itself will be swallowed up by the desert.

THE PATRON SAINT OF SPORTSMEN, St. Hubert, was duly commemorated on Tuesday in France and Belgium by all devotees of "la chasse." St. Hubert's mass was celebrated in various private chapels, the packs of hounds being assembled in the porch, while the chief dog of the pack, gaily decked with his owner's family colours, was taken into the choir to be solemnly blessed by the priest. Service over, the horns gave the signal, and the majority of the congregation went a-hunting.

THE PIAZZA OF ST. MARK'S AT VENICE is being repaved, and the opportunity has been taken to search for the remains of the ancient buildings which formerly stood on the site of the present square. Probably the excavations will occupy two or three years, as it is intended to determine the original area of the Piazza, and to look especially for traces of the native church of St. Geminiano, built in 552, and of the wall raised against the Hungarian pirates about 900. Some valuable twelfth-century sculptures have already been found in the mud.

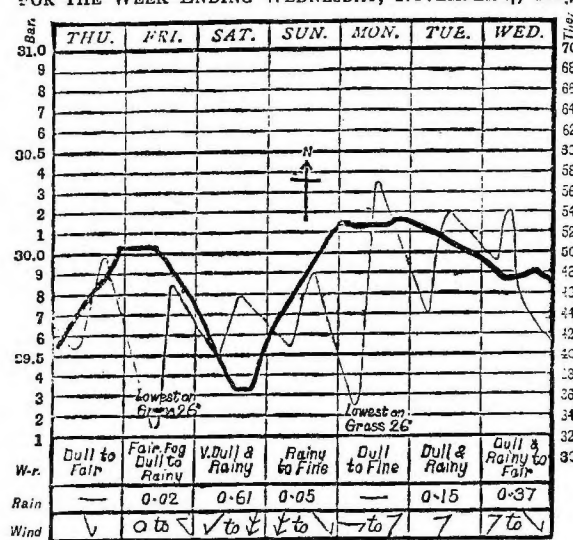
A "CONVICTS' BEERSHOP" is one of the curiosities of Paris just now—a *café* carefully arranged as a realistic copy of the galleys. The waiters appear as convicts, with the orthodox green cap, and bring the customer his "bock" in a drinking-cup shaped like the heavy weight attached to the convicts' ankles, while the head officials of the establishment wear the gaolers' uniform. As a great treat the "soupe des Canaques" is occasionally given—a New Caledonian concoction much relished by the convicts, and duly manufactured by the keeper of the *café*, a famous Communist who has served his time beyond seas. The number of these naturalistic restaurants rapidly increases in Paris, and a Rabelaisian *café*—the Abbey of Thelema—will be the next novelty.

A NEW HOME FOR SMALL MEMBERS OF THE FELINE TRIBE will be opened in the Zoological Gardens next week. Ocelots, tiger-cats, &c., will be kept in this building, which occupies the site of the old reptile house. In the new reptile house, by the way, are now two fine specimens of the "sly silurus," from the Marquis of Bath's Wiltshire estate, which were brought to England thirteen years ago when only seven inches long, and now weigh twenty-eight pounds a-piece. This breed of silurus are the only members of the silurid family in Europe, and are, moreover, the largest European fresh-water fishes. The present specimens so well sustained the family character for voracity that they devoured all Lord Bath's trout, and were accordingly sent to the Zoo.

THE EFFECTS OF THE SMALL-POX EPIDEMIC ON MONTREAL will be felt for many months to come. Hotels are empty, manufactories closed, and every industry is paralysed, while the Canadians lament that they can have no splendid Carnival Festivities nor gorgeous Ice-Palace this year, for not a visitor would enter the city. The local health authorities are decidedly lax respecting the spread of infection, but the American officials rigidly inspect passengers on the trains entering the States. Directly a train touches American territory, a medical inspector appears, wearing a yellow ribbon, and questions each traveller whether he comes from Montreal, and whether he has been vaccinated lately. Then the inspector presses the passengers' arms to feel the vaccination scar, and requires them to show medical certificates. Any one failing to produce the two necessary proofs is blandly conducted into another car, and vaccinated on the spot, some twenty persons in one train often being obliged to undergo the operation.

WEATHER CHART

FOR THE WEEK ENDING WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1885



EXPLANATION.—The thick line shows the variations in the height of the barometer during the past week ending Wednesday midnight. The fine line shows the shade temperature for the same interval, and gives the maximum and minimum readings for each day, with the (approximate) time at which their occurred. The information is furnished to us by the Meteorological Office.

REMARKS.—During the past week the weather has been in a very unsettled and changeable condition generally. Rain has fallen in all parts of the Kingdom, especially over the Midland Counties, where the amounts collected have been considerable. On Thursday (29th ult.) we were under the influence of a low pressure system, which was travelling over the North Sea towards Germany. The wind was consequently Northerly and North-Westerly in most places, with cold showers along our Eastern Coast, but fairer weather elsewhere. In the course of the next day another disturbance appeared over our South-Western Coasts, and as it passed to the Eastward, the wind became strong to a gale from the Eastward on our Eastern and North-Eastern Coasts. In the West and South-West, however, it was fresh or strong from the North-Westward, and in Scotland a fresh to strong gale was experienced. By Sunday this depression had travelled away to the North-East of France, where it was apparently filling up. The distribution of pressure then gradually changed, until the prevailing winds became Southerly and Westerly, with cloudy skies, and wet unsettled weather at the English and Irish stations.

The barometer was highest (30.76 inches) on Monday (2nd inst.); lowest (29.32 inches) on Saturday (31st ult.); range 0.84 inches.

The temperature was highest (57°) on Monday (2nd inst.); lowest (33°) on Friday (30th ult.); range 24°.

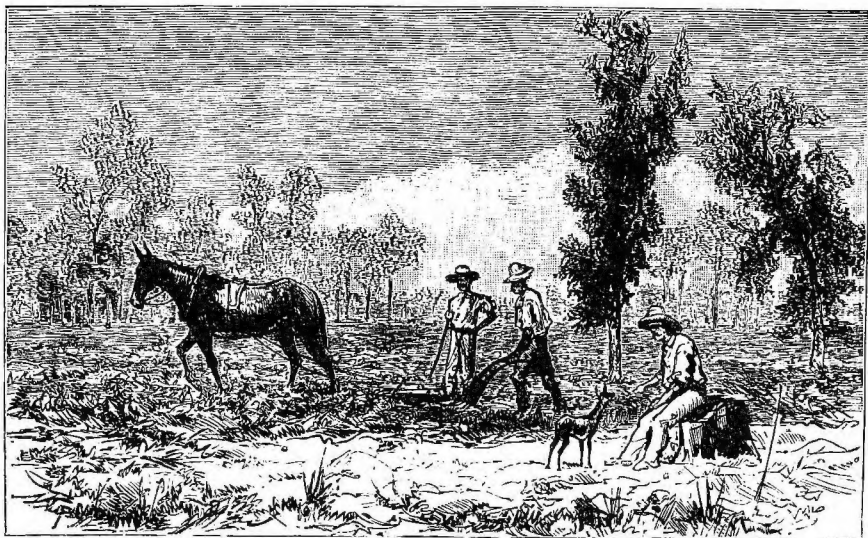
Rain fell on five days. Total amount 1.20 inch. Greatest fall on any one day 0.61 inch on Saturday (31st ult.).



A PRIVATE HOUSE, NARCOOSSEE



CREEK CONNECTING LAKES MAITLAND AND OTSEOLA



PLOUGHING BEFORE PLANTING ORANGE TREES, NARCOOSSEE



DRAINING A SWAMP AT RUNNYMEDE

VIEWS IN FLORIDA, U.S.A.

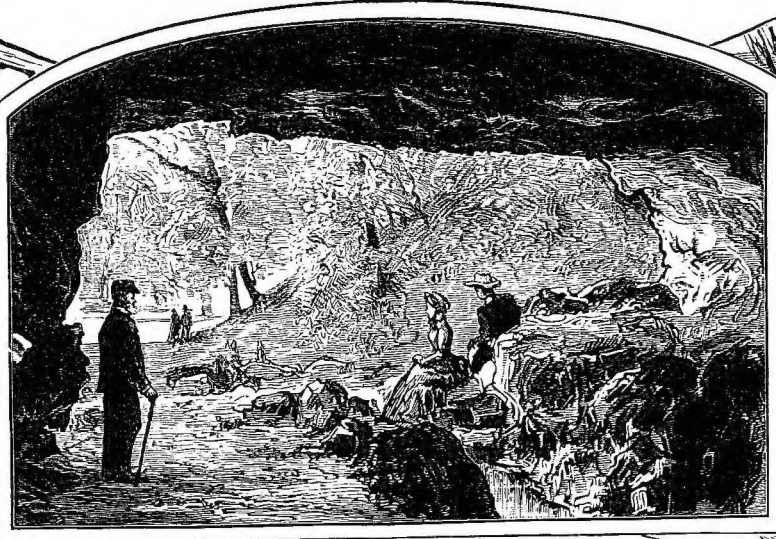
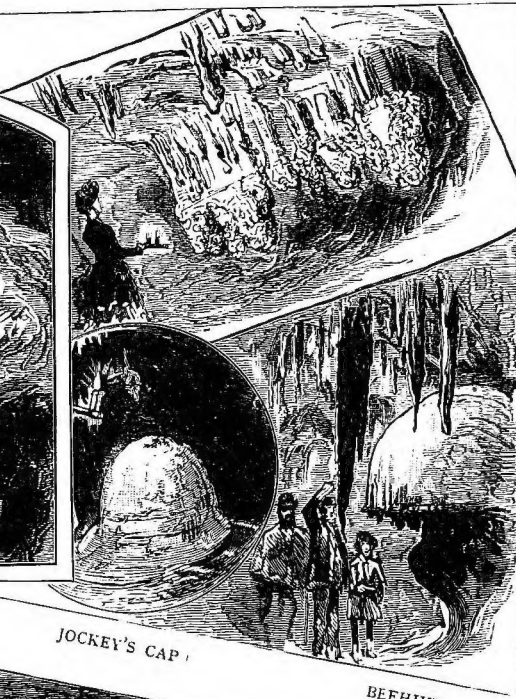


RECEPTION BY THE LORD MAYOR AT THE MANSION HOUSE OF THE INDIAN NATIVES FROM THE INDIAN VILLAGE AT THE ALBERT PALACE — THE NAUTCH

THE BELLS



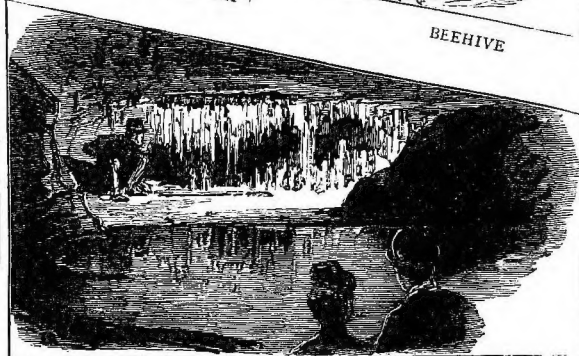
THE INVERTED FOREST



ENTRANCE TO CLAPHAM CAVE

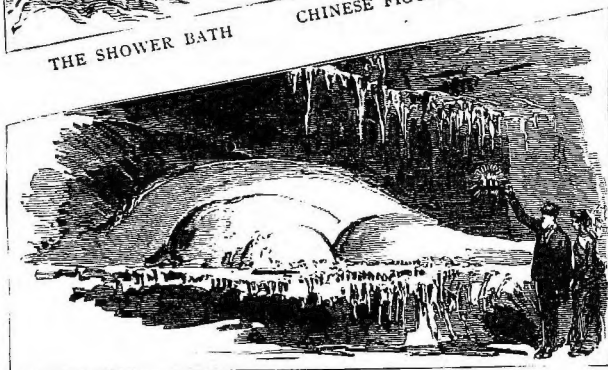
JOCKEY'S CAP

BEEHIVE

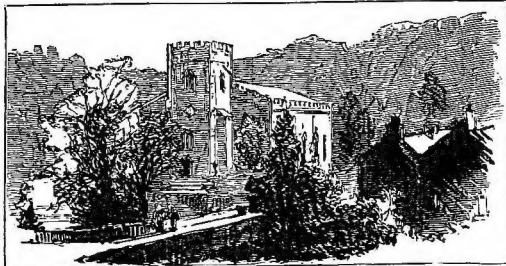


THE SHOWER BATH

CHINESE FIGURES



THE BRIDE CAKE



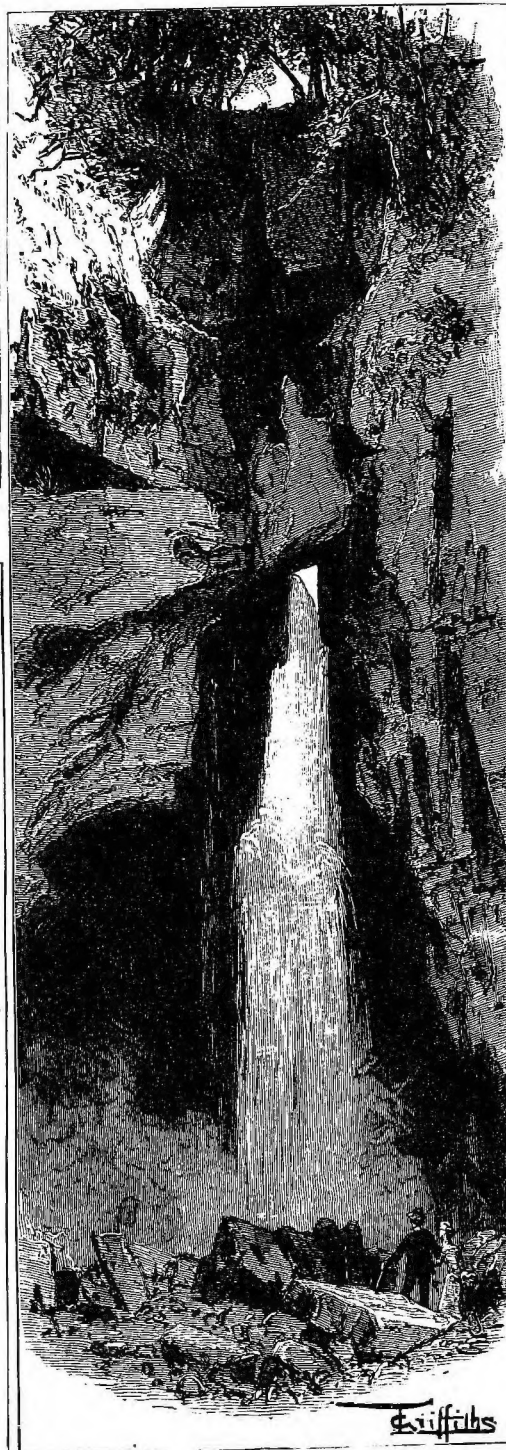
VILLAGE OF CLAPHAM

THE CHANDELIER

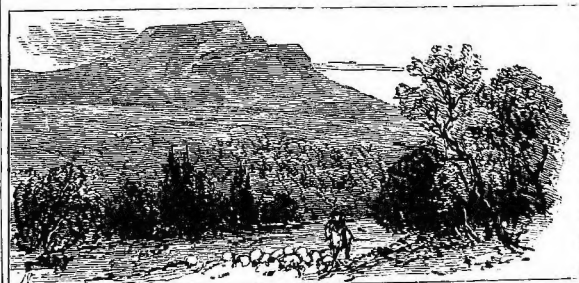


THE PILLAR

ENTRANCE TO WEATHERCOTE CAVE



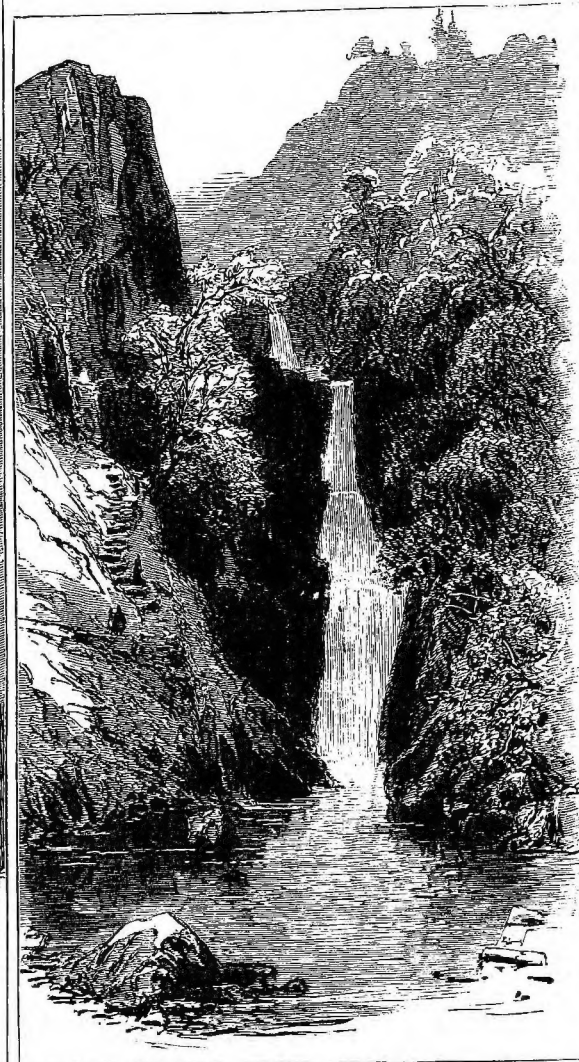
WEATHERCOTE CAVE



INGLEBOROUGH



THORNTON FORCE



PECCA FALLS



THE crisis in the BALKAN STATES has become more acute this week through the delay of the Conference in setting to work at Constantinople. United as to the necessity of peace and—in the main—on the restoration of the *status quo ante* in Eastern Roumelia, the Powers cannot agree on the mode of that restoration, so until their differences are less pronounced the Conference remains idle beyond formal preliminary meetings. Indeed the Porte's sanction to the Conference was not notified till Wednesday, when Said and Server Pasha were nominated Turkish plenipotentiaries. No time was allowed for any preliminary negotiations which might have led to the basis of an understanding for the Ambassadors to work upon, and now these divisions foster a general pessimist feeling that the Conference will linger on, and result in nothing. Plainly the maintenance of Prince Alexander is the chief rock on which the Powers split, and while England champions the Prince with France's support, Russia continues as vehemently anxious to depose her former protégé. This desire prevails more in Muscovite Imperial and military circles than amongst the general Russian public, who are tempted to sympathise with the Bulgarian desire for independence, but the Russian Press teems with condemnatory articles against the Prince, and wrathful disavowals that the late *coup d'état* forestalled a similar movement prepared by Russian agency. Again, the majority of the Powers are unwilling to give Turkey a European mandate to re-establish order in Roumelia should force be needed, England and France considering that the Berlin Treaty empowers the Porte to interfere, so that Europe need not take the responsibility of advising such a step. So far it seems probable that a collective Note will be presented to Prince Alexander, requesting him to withdraw his troops from Eastern Roumelia and disavow the Union, on penalty of being reduced to submission by a Turkish force.

Although Prince Alexander himself is full of pacific and submissive assurances, the attitude of both Bulgarians and Roumelians does not show a very yielding spirit. Deputations crowd to Philippopolis to assure the Prince of support, and Prince Alexander replies that although he is opposed by some of the Powers whom he had expected to help him, he finds unexpected countenance from others. It is said that the Bulgarians are strengthening the fortifications of Widdin on the Danube, and the troops certainly seem in fair readiness along the Turkish Frontier, where Prince Alexander has now gone to inspect his forces. On the Servian Frontier Bulgars and Serbs are dangerously close, and indeed encounters are constantly reported. Though these alarmist rumours are very untrustworthy, there is no doubt that the Servians are only too eager to come to blows, for they firmly assert that they must declare war unless the *status quo* is unconditionally restored. The second class of the Servian reserves has been called out, further increasing the army by 12,000 men, and the King has now gone to the front at Pirot; while enough money is forthcoming to maintain the present war-footing until March. Unfortunately, King Milan is drawn in different directions by conflicting influences, and whilst his people push him on to war he is warmly thanking Austria for her remarks on Servian pacific intentions.

Meanwhile GREECE shows no sign of lagging behind her neighbours in military preparation. The Government has replied in very decided tone to the protests of the Powers on the subject, pointing out that the Roumelian Revolution threatens prominent Grecian interests, and that, though the country desires peace, she cannot remain indifferent when her very national existence is endangered by the preponderance of the Bulgarians. M. Tricoupis has returned to Athens in a warlike mood, which is so echoed by the Greeks in general that all available men are arming, the Athens University is closed for lack of students, and business is well-nigh suspended. Although the Opposition leader asserts that party differences must be sunk in patriotism, it is greatly feared that the war movement will override all Government control, and lead to revolution. MONTENEGRO, too, has summoned the representatives of the Powers to meet at Cettinge for consultation.

Another phase of Eastern affairs, the understanding between EGYPT and England, is in a far more satisfactory condition. The Khédive has received Sir II. D. Wolff with the utmost cordiality, and is said to be highly delighted with the Anglo-Turkish Convention. Though the document cannot be formally ratified till the arrival of the Turkish Commissioner, Nizami Pasha—a German-educated Turk of moderate mind and abilities—the contents are pretty well-known. The most important clause declares that when both English and Turkish Commissioners are satisfied that complete order is restored in the Soudan, Egyptian authority vindicated, and her frontier defined, their Governments shall consider the advisability of evacuating the country as soon as safety permits. Meanwhile, the Khédive and the Turkish Commissioner are to consult and negotiate the pacification of the province, defining its boundaries, but are to submit every step for the English Commissioner's approval. Both the Commissioners and the Khédive will minutely examine the working of each Administration. On all sides this Convention is considered a distinct success, and military circles at Cairo are eagerly arguing on the choice of the frontier, a strong majority favouring the re-occupation of Dongola. Now it is reported that the garrison of Sennaar has not fallen, after all, but has escaped north to join some powerful Bedouin tribes.

All parties in FRANCE are girding up their loins for the Parliamentary battle, which begins next Tuesday. Considering the change in the balance of parties, the approaching Presidential election, and the comparative disunion of political forces, the situation presents plentiful interest. M. Grévy seems fully decided to seek re-election; and, though his opponents try to make capital out of his age and a slight accident caused by the swinging of a gate, which they attribute to ill-health, it is evident that the moment is hardly ripe for any other candidate. Most interest is felt respecting the probable new Ministry, as, though the present Cabinet will resign before Parliament meets, and be simply reconstructed under M. Brisson, it is generally anticipated that it will be only temporary. M. de Freycinet and M. Floquet are considered the most likely Premiers, for as yet M. Clémenceau is too advanced for M. Grévy. On their side the Royalists are trying to form a strong Catholic party, under M. de Mun, but the chief result hitherto has been to make a breach with the Bonapartists, and the Radicals have the best of the situation by being comparatively united under one leader, M. Clémenceau. Some excitement has been created by M. de Freycinet being shot at when driving to the Foreign Office. It turns out that the offender, a Corsican, Mariotti, shot at the Minister, whom he did not know, to attract public attention to private wrongs which he had suffered at Panama. M. de Lesseps is helping to investigate the affair, and is also trying to calm down the Canal shareholders, who are alarmed at a further call, and begin to despair of success.

SPAIN and GERMANY still anxiously await the Papal formal decision on the Caroline Islands dispute, although it is asserted that Pope Leo has given the outline of his verdict. He is trying to satisfy both parties—a very unthankful task, which meets with condemnation from both countries. King Alphonso gets well very

slowly, there has been a serious revolutionary rising at Cartagena—fortunately nipped in the bud—while the cholera causes great suffering in the mining districts round Bilbao.

To return to GERMANY, like many of their neighbours, the Teutons have been absorbed in elections. The new Prussian Landtag has been chosen, and so far there is little change in the balance of parties, although the Liberals were highly successful in Berlin. The most important event has been the taking possession of Brunswick; the new Regent, Prince Albert of Prussia, having entered the capital in great state. Judging from the enthusiastic reception the Brunswickers do not seem much disappointed at being deprived of their lawful ruler, the Duke of Cumberland. Germany, by the bye, is again in a touchy frame of mind about France, and is much annoyed by what she calls the Orleanist manoeuvres to secure Royal friendships at the late marriage, a semi-official *communiqué* warning the French Republic to beware of these pretenders. At the same time the descendants of the French Huguenots settled in Berlin have been celebrating the bi-centenary of the Revocation of the Edict of Nantes and lauding German hospitality.

All attention in India is fixed on BURMA, where the ultimatum reached Mandalay at the end of last week, but was not handed over until preparations had been made for the Europeans to leave in safety. The Burmese Government apparently did not expect so peremptory a message; but they are undeceived by now, and the King's answer was expected yesterday (Friday). There is little expectation that Theebaw will yield, and General Prendergast's expedition are embarking on the flats ready to advance, while reinforcements have left Madras and Calcutta for Rangoon. If the King sends a satisfactory reply, Colonel Sladen will go to Mandalay as Envoy with an escort 1,000 strong, and, besides insisting on being received by Theebaw without any servile ceremonies, will garrison the Residency and keep a British gunboat at Mandalay. He will then settle the affairs of the Bombay and Burmah Company, require the dismantling of the various forts and the reduction of the army to 5,000 men, and insist on the obnoxious Ministers being removed. In the event of war, it is thought that the chief resistance will be met with along the Irrawaddy, as the Burmese are specially skilled in river warfare. Usually, the voyage from Rangoon to Mandalay—502 miles—occupies from eight to ten days; but the steamers and flats, not being fitted to resist fire, must go cautiously. Many towns along the banks are bound to supply Theebaw with fighting boats, and, if report be true, their help will be needed, as, beyond twenty ordinary steamers and gunboats, the King has only one armed steamer, which at present is stranded near the capital. His army is estimated at from 10,000 to 15,000 men, undisciplined and badly armed, but likely to give much trouble by the rapid construction of stockades, as they fight well under cover. Meanwhile Mandalay is all excitement and war preparations, while Rangoon is in a state of panic, fearing a descent of the Burmese force.

Another famous military leader has just passed away in the UNITED STATES—General McClellan, who commanded the Union forces in the Civil Wars previous to Grant, and retired through disapproval of President Lincoln's policy. He died suddenly of heart disease, and has been much regretted. The General's death has aroused fresh reminiscences of the war and of General Grant, the latter being increased by the trial of Ward, the fraudulent partner who ruined the Grant family. Ward has been sentenced to ten years imprisonment. Some important trials, too, are going on in Utah, where the Mormon polygamists are being so vigorously prosecuted that the Saints are panic-stricken, and the chief lights of the Church have discreetly vanished into hiding. The various States have been electing their new Governors, much to the success of the Democrats, who have carried the two most important seats, New York and Virginia.

OF MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS, the Government in DENMARK have strengthened their powers of suppressing obnoxious political utterances by a new Provisional Law, extending the present penal code, and bearing heavily on all opposition speeches and writings. —Riel's fate is not yet decided in CANADA, where the majority of the Cabinet are believed to favour carrying out the sentence, notwithstanding the popular agitation in the rebel's behalf. Small-pox continues very severe in Montreal, 2,651 persons having died since April. Vaccination is now compulsory. —Matters do not improve in BECHUANALAND, and the natives are bitterly disappointed that the desired British protection rather favours the Boers than the Bechuanas.



THE Queen remains in Scotland for another fortnight, having deferred her return to Windsor until the 24th inst. Although the weather is very cold at Balmoral, Her Majesty takes the usual daily drives with the Princesses, while the Princes go out shooting; and the Queen has received the new Bishop of Salisbury to do homage on his appointment, and the Duke of Richmond and Gordon to kiss hands as Secretary for Scotland. The Duke usually dines with Her Majesty, and Colonel Teesdale and the Revs. A. Campbell and W. Tulloch also joined the Royal party at dinner on Sunday, the Rev. Mr. Tulloch having previously performed Divine Service before the Queen and Royal Family. In the afternoon Her Majesty visited Princess Frederica at Abergeldie.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have gone to Sandringham for the winter season. The Princess and daughters returned from Paris at the end of last week, when on Saturday the Princess, accompanied by the Prince, Prince Albert Victor, and Princess Louise visited Whitechapel to open the new building of the Working Lads' Institute. In the evening the Prince presided at the banquet of the Fishmongers' Company, given to commemorate the presentation of a testimonial to Mr. Birkbeck by British boat-owners and fishermen. Next morning the Prince and Princess and family attended Divine Service, and on Monday Prince Albert Victor rejoined his regiment at Aldershot. Later the Duke of Cambridge and Prince Leiningen visited the Prince and Princess, who in the evening entertained at dinner the Grand Duke and Duchess of Mecklenburg-Strelitz, the Hereditary Duke and Duchess and Prince Frederick of Anhalt, the Royal party afterwards going to Drury Lane Theatre. Next day the Duke of Edinburgh and the Duke and Duchess of Teck lunched at Marlborough House, while in the evening the Prince and Princess went to the Haymarket Theatre. On Wednesday the Prince and Princess and their daughters left town for Sandringham, where they receive a large party to keep the Prince's birthday next Monday, the usual ball being given on Friday. The Prince has taken the late Lord Shaftesbury's place as patron of Bethnal Green Free Library.

The Duke of Edinburgh visited Brighton on Saturday, but the Duchess was not well enough to accompany her husband. Princess Louise came with the Duke, however, and the Royal visitors drove through Brighton from end to end, in spite of heavy rain, and lunched with the Mayor at the Pavilion before attending the concert of the Amateur Orchestral Society. There the Duke played the violin solo in Handel's "Largo," and was encored. Princess Louise stayed with the Duke and Duchess at Eastwell until Monday.



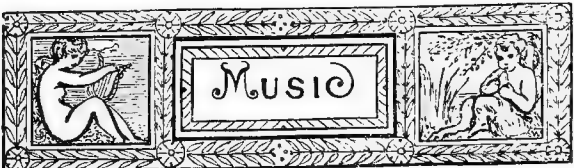
THE ARCHBISHOPS OF CANTERBURY AND YORK have issued an address, in view of the General Election, in which they urge on electors the duty of thinking for themselves, instead of transferring the responsibility for their votes to a party or association, and also of weighing carefully the lavish promises of prosperity made to them by rival candidates, from whom some explanation of the manner in which these can be fulfilled ought to be required.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT QUESTION.—In answer to an appeal made to him to declare his views on Disestablishment, Mr. Gladstone speaks of it as a question forced forward, not by the Liberals, but by the Tories, in order to disunite the Liberal party, and he declines to discuss topics which are not related to practical politics, and with which if they should become practical it will be for others and not for him to deal.—Lord Egerton of Tatton, as President of the Church Defence Institution, has received and approved of the tenor of a proposed address to the Electors of the United Kingdom on the subject of the Disestablishment of the Church of England, which has been forwarded to him, and was probably drawn up, by the octogenarian Earl Grey. It refers to the efforts, often successful, of the Liberation Society to procure pledges from candidates to vote for Disestablishment, and urges friends of the Church to act so as to convince candidates that by pursuing this course they will lose more votes than they will gain. Churchmen are accordingly asked to form societies in the different constituencies, composed of persons of all political opinions, for the purpose of demanding from every candidate an assurance of loyal support to the Established Church. Among the Liberal Peers who have signed this address are, besides Earl Grey himself, the Dukes of Westminster, Bedford, and Somerset. It has also been signed by Lord Selborne and the Earl of Halifax, High Churchmen, by Lord Ebury, a veteran champion of Evangelicalism, and by the Broad Church author of "Tom Brown's School Days," Mr. Thomas Hughes.

THE VACANT BISHOPRIC OF JAPAN has been offered to, and accepted by, the Rev. Edward Bickersteth, eldest son of the Bishop of Exeter, who from 1877 to 1882 was head of the Cambridge University Mission to Delhi. Ill-health forced him to return to England, and in 1884 he was presented by Pembroke College, Cambridge, of which he is a Fellow, to the valuable living of Framlingham, Norfolk. This, however, he resigned a few weeks ago in order to resume his missionary labours at Delhi.

AT A MEETING this week in Manchester, called by the Mayor, it was resolved on his motion to erect in some conspicuous part of that city a memorial statue of the late Bishop of Manchester. The Roman Catholic Bishop of Salford expressed his willingness to take part in promoting any memorial of a purely civic or philanthropic character.

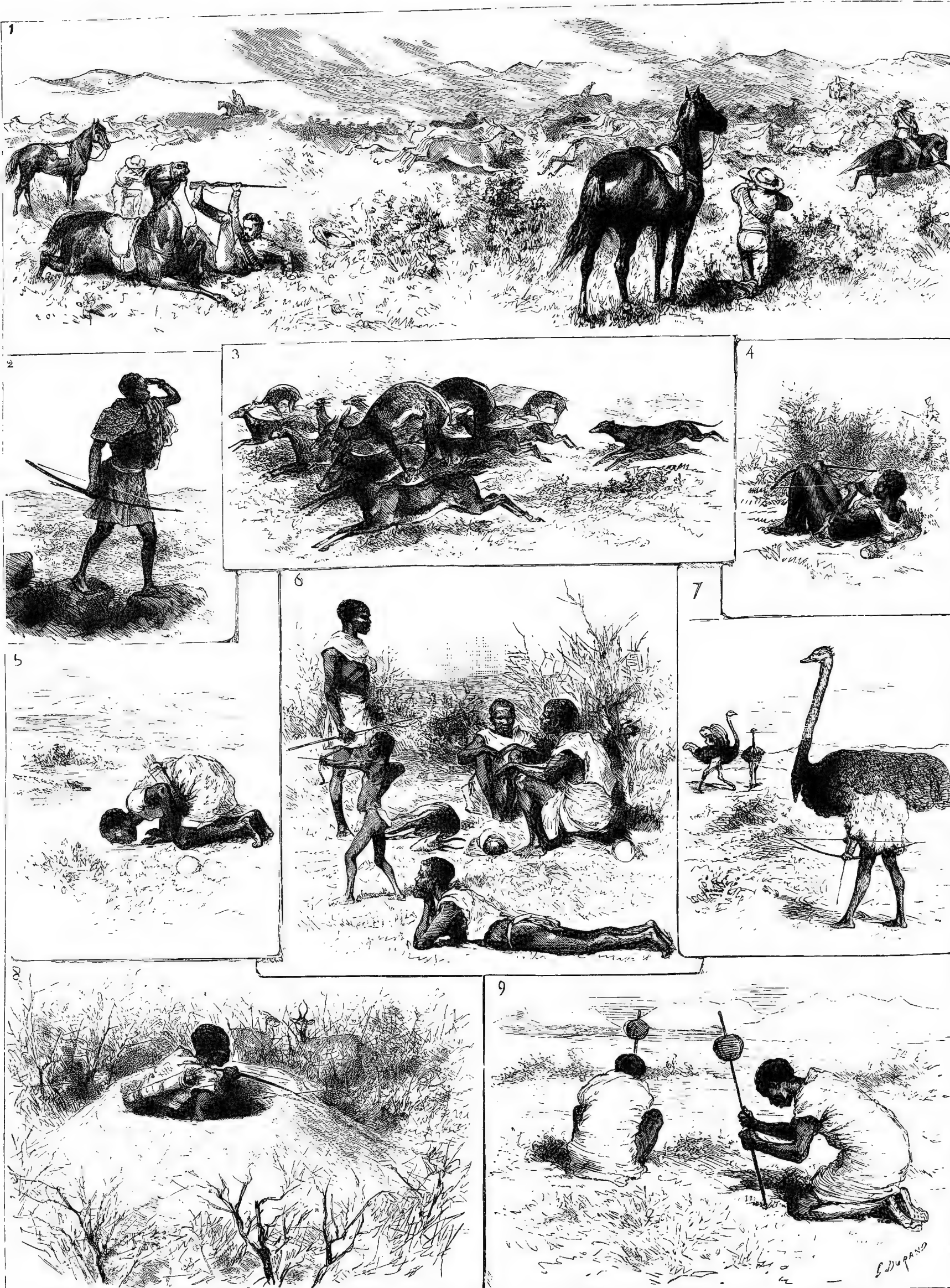
PRESIDING AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE of the Sheffield Sunday School Union, Mr. Mundella maintained, on the strength of statements made by teachers who had come from National Schools, that the religious instruction given in Board Schools was both greater in quantity and more thorough than that given in those which they had quitted.



"MORS ET VITA."—On Wednesday evening, before a large and distinguished audience, M. Gounod's latest oratorio was performed for the first time in London at the Royal Albert Hall. With the exception of Madame Patey, who was ably replaced by Miss Hilda Wilson, the leading members of the Birmingham cast were retained. It will be recollected that the greater part of the work is an elaborate setting of the Roman Catholic *Requiem*, a subject for which, in its Latin guise, English audiences can hardly be expected to lash themselves into any very violent enthusiasm. Much of this music is commonplace, but a good deal of it is worthy of special attention. This specially applies to the fine unaccompanied double chorus in the solid Church style, the beautiful "Recordare," Mr. Lloyd's tenor solo, "Inter Oves," and Madame Albani's prayer for the Light Eternal. Nobody is likely to admire M. Gounod's theatrical representation of the Last Trump and the Resurrection; almost as tawdry and unsatisfactory a piece of tone-painting as can be found in the whole repertory of music. Equally commonplace are the worship music of the Angels and the baritone solo announcing the New Heaven. But, on the other hand, the finger of genius has marked the passage of strings in union which so felicitously expresses the mercy of the Great Judge, that portion of the succeeding baritone solo which contains the Saviour's invitation to the Blessed, Madame Albani's lovely solo, with female chorus, and the orchestral symphony which announces the New Jerusalem. The Albert Hall audience sat almost through the work with praiseworthy pertinacity. They even attempted to encore the union passage for strings already alluded to. But by a quarter-past ten the patience of a large though somewhat apathetic congregation appeared to be exhausted, and before the concert closed the exodus was general. This, we take it, seals the fate of *Mors et Vita* in its present unwieldy and incomprehensible shape. The performance was admirable.

CONCERT NOVELTIES.—Antonin Dvorik's second symphony in D minor was performed for the first time at the Crystal Palace on Saturday. The opening *allegro*, in which the first theme and its numerous episodes are so fully developed, could then for the first time be thoroughly appreciated, and the same remark will apply to the *finale*, which almost has the form of a first movement. The slow movement we still think far too rich in thematic matter, and also too elaborate and extended. But on the other hand the charm of the scherzo, a veritable Bohemian dance, is undoubted.—At the Promenade Concerts Mr. E. H. Thorne's prize overture has been twice performed. It is entitled *Peveril of the Peak*. The principal subjects are a Roundhead tune, which is we believe original, and the Cavalier song, "The King shall enjoy his own again." Another theme represents the love of Alice Bridgenorth and Julian Peveril. The subject can, of course, be only cursorily treated in an orchestral overture, but Mr. Thorne's workmanship is decidedly clever.—At the second Richter Concert on Tuesday evening a fine performance was given of Brahms' symphony in D, No. 2, and of the *Leonore* overture, No. 2, of Beethoven. Madame Valleria and Mr. Lloyd repeated their most admirable delivery of the passionate love duet from the *finale* to *Die Walküre*, which last season created so great a sensation at these concerts. The *quasi* novelty was a set of variations for strings and two horns from the third of Mozart's *Divertissements*, written 1779-80. These replaced a sextet for strings and horns by Bach, which for some reason could not be given. Next season, we understand, Madame Valleria and Mr. Lloyd may introduce at these concerts the elaborate love duet in the

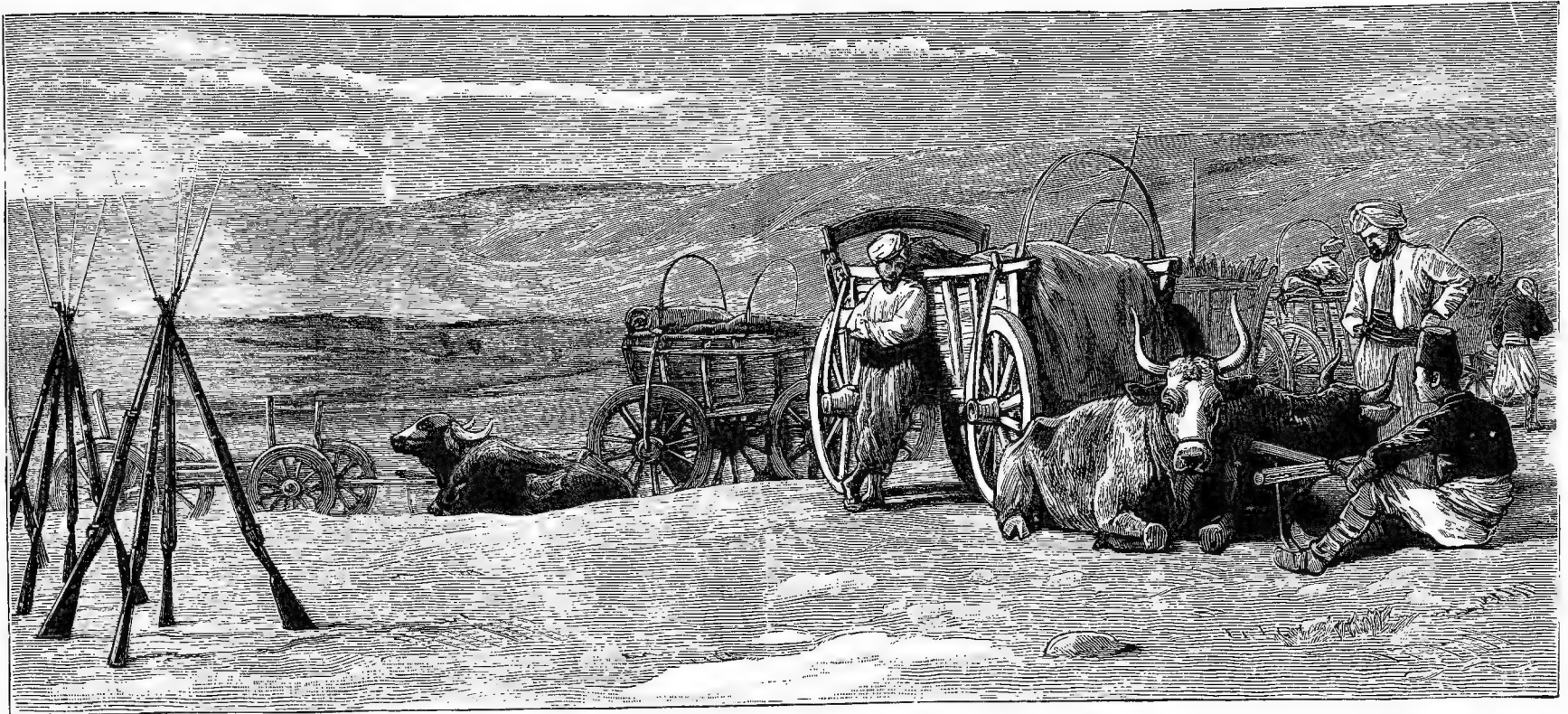
ARRESTS have been made of three men suspected of having been engaged in the burglary at Netherby Castle last week, which they followed up by shooting three policemen, one of whom died immediately and by severely injuring a fourth. Brought before the Carlisle magistrates on Saturday, and having given their names as Anthony Rudds, John Martin, and James Baker, they were remanded for a week. Several persons have recognised them as seen at the time in the neighbourhood of the place where Police Constable Byrnes was murdered on Thursday evening last week. In the case of Martin a most interesting and important discovery has been made, Chief Inspector Shore, from London, having identified him as one of the men who shot Inspector Simmonds near Romford, for which murder one man was hung, the other having escaped.



1. In the Field.
2. A Bushman on the Look Out—Early Morning.
3. The Manner of Springing when Chased by Dogs.

4. Bushman's Method of Using the Bow and Arrow against Large Game.
5. After Three Days' Hunting.
6. A Bushman Camp.

7. Stalking Ostriches
8. A "Shooting Hole" Made where the Springbok Congregate.
9. Bushmen Digging for Bulbs.



WAGGONS CONTAINING SAPPERS' TOOLS ESCORTED BY BULGARIAN MILITIA

Dr George Stransky, President of the Provisional Government, Eastern Roumelia



Gabriel Pasha, the Expelled Ottoman Governor of Eastern Roumelia



Courleff, the Leader of a Band of Volunteers

Macedonian Volunteer



A Girl Student from the Lyceum at Philippopolis



The Secret Bulgarian Revolutionary Committee

F.G. Kilton



A Bulgarian Military Chaplain

London Board Schools

(Continued from page 520)

The pupil-teachers' time at the school was thus occupied partly in teaching and partly in receiving instruction, but the greater part of their study was pursued at home. Recently the London Board has established pupil-teachers' instruction-centres, where the young apprentices are gathered together into classes and specially taught. Upon this plan, instead of being required to compress almost the whole of their study and instruction into the time when the children's work is done, they are at work amongst the children for only one half the time during which the school is open, the remaining half going to swell the time devoted solely to their own preparation. This new scheme could not be adopted until the Code was specially altered for the purpose by Mr. Mundella. It is in operation in several other of our large towns. It is a subject of considerable controversy. There seems to be no question as to its excellent effect upon the pupil-teachers themselves; but the objection is urged that, the money having been spent upon their instruction out of the School Board funds, the pupil-teacher, on completing his training, is at liberty to accept an engagement in any part of the world. Against this the hope is expressed that this action by the London and other large School Boards is leading up to the general adoption of some system for the provision of a number of trained teachers sufficient for the requirements of the country, to meet which requirements the existing Training Colleges are manifestly inadequate. The system has not yet been long enough in operation to enable an accurate estimate to be formed of its results. Against its cost there is to be set off a substantial reduction which the Board has made in the salaries given to pupil-teachers during their apprenticeship, in consideration of the superior education which they now receive. The present payment made by the Board during the period of candidature is for boys 4s., and for girls 2s. per week; and in the time of apprenticeship, from 5s. and 3s. respectively in the first year, to 16s. and 10s. in the fourth year. The maximum number of pupil-teachers allowed in the schools is three for the principal teacher and one for each certificated assistant. At the end of the apprenticeship the pupil teachers either pass after examination into a Training College for a term, or are eligible to be at once employed in a school under special conditions. Those who pass through the Training College are thereby qualified to become head-teachers when they have the opportunity. Those who do not pass through the Training College can only qualify for head-teachership by a specific term of successful service as assistants. A new opening into the profession, without the apprenticeship, has recently been made by a new article in the Code, providing that graduates of any University, women who have passed University examinations, and some others, may be engaged as assistant-teachers, and in that position become qualified to be head-teachers by a given term of successful service. Some two years since the Board decided to abandon the old plan of paying its teachers partly by a certain fixed sum and partly by a varying addition to that sum depending upon the amount of the Government grant earned by the children at examination; and adopted, instead, a scale of fixed salaries depending only upon the sizes, and sometimes upon the special circumstances, of the schools. The rate of salary for assistant teachers begins at 50l. for men and 45l. for women, and runs up to 155l. and 125l. respectively, with special allowances for cases of special difficulty, &c. For head teachers the rate of payment ranges from 150l. for men and 120l. for women to 400l. and 300l. respectively, proportionate allowance being made for special conditions. The salaries paid by the London School Board to its teachers are substantially higher than the average salaries in the provinces. The principal reasons by which this practice is supported are—firstly, the increased cost of living in London over the cost of living in the country; and, secondly, the desire to attract the best possible teaching power to cope with the special difficulties of London. According to the Code, the principal teacher counts for an average attendance of sixty children; each additional certificated teacher for an average attendance of eighty; each assistant for an average attendance of sixty; each pupil-teacher for an average attendance of forty; and each candidate for an average attendance of twenty. The figures represent the minimum of teaching staff permitted by the Education Department. The staffing in the schools of the London Board, and in those of the principal School Boards in the provinces, is more liberal than the Department's minimum. The Board Schools of London are generally very large, accommodating frequently from 1,200 to 1,600 children. Such schools require men of great ability, with exceptional power of organisation and of personal command; and with so many large schools, naturally the proportion of high salaries is considerable as compared with Board Schools in the country generally. It is the opinion of very competent authorities that some of the best head teachers in the world are in the service of the London School Board; and the service of assistant teachers in London Board Schools is regarded as the best possible nursing ground for head teachers. In the case of schoolmistresses the supply falls far short of the demand, because so many mistresses pass out of the profession with married life; although of course the Board has many married schoolmistresses remaining in its service.

COMPULSORY ATTENDANCE

EVERY child must attend school the whole time that the school is open, "unless there is a reasonable excuse." There is a large staff of attendance officers, under the control of a Superintendent in each

division, to look up both the children who are not enrolled on the register of any school and the children who attend irregularly. The law puts power into the hands of the Board to summon the parent to appear before the magistrates, without any preliminary proceedings, in the case of any child absent from school, but the Board have adopted much preliminary machinery to prevent friction in the operation of the law. "Form A" is a warning to the parent that his child is not attending school, and has no reasonable excuse. If on receiving this the child goes to school, all is well. If not, "Notice B" follows. The parent may then send the child to school, and save himself further trouble, or in default he must attend a "Notice B meeting," held on a certain day to investigate cases, and give explanations of the child's absence, and "show cause why he should not be summoned." It is the mothers who usually attend these meetings. If no good comes of this, and those members who preside at the "Notice B meeting" are not satisfied with the excuses offered, the parent is summoned to appear before a magistrate, where, if he is convicted, he is fined not more than 5s., including costs, and time is allowed for payment. If the fine is not paid in due time, a distress warrant is issued; or, if there are no goods for distraint, the parent may be sent to prison for a few days; but since the passing of Sir Richard Cross's Summary Jurisdiction Act in 1879 the process is so difficult and cumbersome that imprisonment is very seldom reached.

CORPORAL PUNISHMENT

EVERY act of Corporal Punishment must be recorded in a book kept for the purpose. The head master is directly responsible, and none but he must inflict the punishment. In "mixed schools" (boys and girls) where there is no head mistress an assistant mistress, under the supervision of the head master, must inflict the punishment on girls. No child is to be struck on any part of the head, either with the hand or with any instrument whatsoever. The punishment must not be inflicted in school hours, except in very special cases, of which a full account and explanation must be entered in the Punishment Book.

SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND THE SCHOOL ESTABLISHMENT

SOME of the more recently erected of the London Board Schools are considered to be among the best constructed, most convenient, and most suitable in the world. In a few cases, where great difficulties have stood in the way of securing a site, and where the cost of the ground was very great, the area covered by the building is small, the rooms are set up story upon story to a great altitude, and the playground is cramped. The school furniture is always of the most serviceable that modern ingenuity, enterprise, and competition has produced. The lighting, warmth, and ventilation are generally excellent.

There are children's school libraries and reference libraries everywhere. There is an immense improvement in the character of the school books provided for the public Elementary Schools. The teachers have opportunities of visiting the Board's stores to examine specimens, and are not in any way restricted in the selection they make, except that they must not run beyond the regulation expenditure per child.

THE WORK AND THE CHILDREN

WONDERFUL is the change wrought in poor and in outcast neighbourhoods by the work and the influence of the schools. Children who came at first into the new school dirty, ragged, and wild, soon become clean and decent, and somehow the poorest parents after awhile appear to rise to the conditions, and find the means, which appeared at first impossible, to make the little folks more presentable. And the improvement is not confined to the children. It touches the general aspects of the population, more particularly among the women.

In neighbourhoods the most deplorable, destitute, and forlorn, in schools full of hapless wretches, the poor children, especially the younger ones and the girls, evidently find a peculiar interest and pleasure in their work. Labouring in the midst of depressing influences the teachers are found full of zeal and enthusiasm.

The teaching of the blind is an exceedingly interesting branch of the work. One of the largest of the blind centres is a special department of the Bowling Green Lane Schools, in Clerkenwell. The head mistress of this school, Miss Scott, is herself blind; and much of the blind teaching is done by blind teachers. The pupils work at arithmetic by the Braille system of metal types, which are dropped into the necessary positions in rows of holes in a zinc plate. Extreme gentleness of manner and sympathetic influence prevail between teachers and pupils. In oral lessons the children mix with the ordinary classes. They sit side by side with the other children in the Government examinations, and pass almost as readily.

There are seven centres for the instruction of deaf and dumb children. One of the largest is in Winchester Street, Pentonville. It is all on the famous lip-reading principle. The teacher gets attention by the stamping of the foot, which seems effective even in cases of total deafness, the vibration reaching the consciousness of the child otherwise than through the aural organ. The spectacle is very interesting and very peculiar. The children are very deft in reading words and sentences from the lips of the teacher; but the trouble is in the use of the voice in giving sound and articulation to the words. The pupil cannot hear the sounds which he makes, and has never heard syllables uttered. This is the great difficulty; but it is in time largely overcome. First the

poor students make themselves intelligible to the initiated, and afterwards with some difficulty to the stranger. They enjoy the work immensely, and if it takes a long time to learn to speak without hearing in an absolutely silent world, the children are quick enough in learning to write. They will take soundless dictation from the lips of the teacher, and write down the sentence, or work out the sum, in an almost beautiful hand. The celebrated Dr. Stainer is the Chief Instructor over these schools, and many of the children reside in his homes that are scattered about throughout London.

The nursery in Great Wild Street is another of the many affecting sights which the Board Schools in every department present. It must be stated that the Board's own enterprise in this direction has been held by the authorities to be outside the law-defined limits of its work; and, beyond the nurseries already set in operation, the Board is not allowed further to extend the system. But the Great Wild Street Nursery is carried on without expense, through the generosity of the lady last known as the widow of the late Lord Stanley of Alderley, and mother of the Hon. E. Lyulph Stanley. The purpose of the nursery is to remove a hardship, often incident upon compulsory school attendance, by taking care of the babies of poor families whilst the elder children are attending school. A kind, motherly woman is employed to devote her time to the care and amusement of the little ones, who, under her charge in the warm, bright, toy-strewn room, appear as happy as children possibly can be.

About the Board School cookery classes it is scarcely necessary to add more than is conveyed in our artist's sketch. In the scene which he has chosen, as in all the other centres, the young girls show the greatest interest in learning how cheap some good dinners may be made, and the teacher's method is admirable without qualification.

Again, in the infants' schools, the bright happiness of the children engaged in the various occupations of the Kindergarten is the first thing that strikes a visitor. Their best intelligence seems to be brought out, without the least suggestion of toil or weariness.

Our artist's picture of a reading class in a Board School by Clare Market gives a glimpse of School Board teaching in the midst of one of the poorest and most densely populated districts in West-Central London. This is one of the schools acknowledged in official lists to be a "school of special difficulty." It is hard and uphill work for teachers here, but the high influences of education are clearly and hopefully visible. Here, as everywhere else, the greatest encouragement is afforded by the girls. But the boys are yielding too. Nowhere might be seen or heard a thing more touchingly significant than the unexpected softening to music of rough, harsh voices as a class of these poor lads lately sang—

O, my heart is weary waiting,
Waiting for the May;
Waiting for the pleasant rambles,
Where the fragrant hawthorn brambles,
With the woodbine alternating,
Scent the dewy May—

words which for few of them could have had much more than the vaguest meaning.

The penny dinner centres are now, at the edge of winter, getting into full and extended operation. There is evidence that this movement is really accomplishing something in furtherance of its objects, in the fact that with the advent of hard times and want of work the number of the diners increases, to fall again with the coming of more prosperous days.

All this makes a stupendous enterprise, which cannot be summed up in a few words; but, as Mr. Picton said at St. James's Hall the other night, moving his great audience to enthusiasm: "The history of the world records no greater work than the work of the London School Board."

RICHARD GOWING

LONDON MORTALITY decreased last week, and 1,366 deaths were registered, against 1,458 during the previous seven days, a decline of 92, being 244 below the average, and at the rate of 17.5 per 1,000. There were 4 from small-pox (a rise of 4), 23 from measles (a fall of 4), 10 from scarlet fever (a decline of 8), 10 from diphtheria (a decrease of 8), 36 from whooping-cough (a rise of 5), 8 from enteric fever (a fall of 3), 2 from ill-defined forms of fever (an increase of 2), 17 from diarrhoea and dysentery (a decline of 4), and not one from typhus fever. Deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs numbered 358, an increase of 2, and 9 below the average. Different forms of violence caused 43 deaths, 36 were the result of accident or negligence, among which were 11 from fractures and contusions, 10 from burns and scalds, and 9 of infants under one year of age from suffocation. Five cases of suicide were registered. There were 2,581 births registered, against 2,572 the previous week, being 227 below the average. The mean temperature of the air was 44.0 deg., and 2.42 deg. below the average. Rain fell on four days of the week to the aggregate amount of 0.80 of an inch. The duration of registered bright sunshine in the week was 13.3 hours, against 19.7 hours at Glynde Place, Lewes.

A CANAL TO UNITE THE BLACK SEA TO THE CASPIAN is being planned by a Franco-Russian Scientific Commission. The scheme was first suggested three centuries ago, by Selim II., son of Soliman the Magnificent, when he was besieging Astrakan, and was again taken up, in 1696, by Peter the Great. Now the present Commission have adopted the same line as the Czar's intended route on the Volga.

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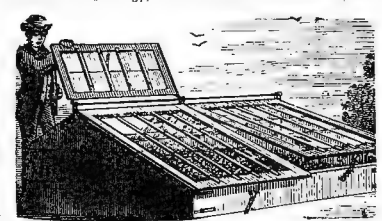
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STICK ALPHABET

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THE ACT

THE Elementary Education Act of 1870 introduced the compulsory attendance of children at school into this country; and yet it did not prescribe compulsory attendance. It was not Mr. Forster in 1870, but Mr. Mundella in 1880, who made attendance at school the law of the land. The measure of 1870 was the most remarkable experiment in permissive legislation on record. Mr. Forster did no more in this direction than to give to the School Boards, set up under his Act, the power to compel the attendance of children at school if they should think fit. Compulsion was to be carried out by a code of bye-laws, made in the terms and under the conditions set forth in Section 74 of the Act; but School Boards were under no obligation to make these compulsory bye-laws, and there were School Boards in the country, as late as ten years after the Act was passed, which never made any bye-laws, and did nothing in the way of compelling attendance. And the permissive quality of the measure in respect of compulsion went a step further. Even when a School Board had gone the length of making a code of bye-laws, arming themselves with the power to force the children into the schools, they were not under the obligation to carry out the bye-laws. As between the School Boards and the Legislature, the whole business of compulsion was optional from beginning to end.

It was only when the School Board made a code of bye-laws and resolved to put them in force that real compulsion began. From that point, as between the parent and the Board, the permissive and optional elements came to an end. These conditions of the law of

at school they should be enforced, the School Board to be otherwise treated as a Board "in default." In the second place Mr. Mundella, in 1880, provided that there should be a code of bye-laws for the compulsory attendance of children at school in every district over the whole area of England and Wales. The bye-laws affect children only between the ages of five and thirteen; but there was an additional provision of compulsion in Lord Sandon's Act which, from and after 1876, forbade the attendance of children at school between the ages of thirteen and fourteen, unless they had passed the Fourth Standard of examination, or had proved themselves to be qualified for what has been called the "dunce's certificate," by attending school with tolerable regularity for a number of years without qualifying themselves to pass in Standard IV. The compulsion provided in a code of bye-laws was defined and limited to a large extent by the section of the Act. One condition was that no child should be absent from school for the purpose of employment, or otherwise, under the age of ten. Between the ages of ten and thirteen exemptions were provided, and in the selection of these exemptions the School Boards had some license. On passing in one of the early standards of examination fixed by the Board the child would be entitled, under some minor conditions, to be at school half time and at work half time; and on passing in one of the higher standards named in the Board's bye-laws, the child might leave school, and be no longer subject to compulsion.

Another notable example of the permissive and optional element in the Act was in the matter of the establishment of School Boards. Neither town nor village was under the obligation to set up a School Board if it could show enough school accommodation for all the children, or make good the deficiency within a reasonable time. To this rule there was one exception—London. It was notorious that there were at any rate tens of thousands of children in the metropolis who had not a school to go to, and it was specially provided in

another is the liberty specially given to the London Board to appoint some gentleman as Chairman who has not been elected by the ratepayers to serve on the Board. But the London Board have never exercised these minor privileges which distinguish them from the country Boards. Their Chairman has always been a duly elected Member; and the first resolution that the Board ever passed, at that meeting on the 15th of December, 1870, while Mr. Alderman Cotton was Chairman *pro tem.*, was "that no salary be awarded to the Chairman." In consideration, however, of the great amount of work devolving on the Chairman, it was agreed at one of the earliest meetings to grant the Chairman the services of a private secretary at a salary of 300*l.*, and this regulation has been in force from the beginning. All the world knows that on the retirement of the first Chairman, Lord Lawrence, Mr. (afterwards Sir Charles) Reed was appointed to be his lordship's successor, and that on the death of Sir Charles Reed Mr. Edward North Buxton, the present Chairman, was chosen to fill his place.

There was none of the element of permission or option in that part of the Act of 1870 which related to the provision of the necessary accommodation for all the children. Mr. Forster's Act was a measure above all things for covering the face of the country with schools, and any town or district or parish which did not respond to a notice to make good a proved deficiency of accommodation was compelled to elect a School Board, and the School Board was under statutory obligations to build schools until there should be a place for every child for whom elementary education was not otherwise provided. In London alone no inquiry was necessary in order to ascertain whether there was sufficient accommodation; and the only task was to find out how much new schooling was needed. From rough calculations made in the Education Office while the Bill was going through the House of Commons in 1870, Mr. Forster thought it would be necessary to build Board Schools in the metropolis for

about 100,000 children, and on that basis he expressed the hope that a rate of threepence in the pound upon the assessment would meet the cost. But the work undertaken could not be measured at that stage of the business; fifteen years have elapsed, and though the number of children in the Voluntary Schools is almost as great as in 1870, there are the names of nearly 400,000 children instead of 100,000 on the roll of the Board Schools, and the rate, instead of threepence, is nearly ninepence.

THE COMMITTEE OF COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

To those not closely engaged in the work it is not very easy to distinguish between the functions of the School Board and those of the Education Department. It is worth remembering what this Department is. It is not constituted by Act of Parliament, like the Board of Trade and the Local Government Board. It is a survival of a very ancient and material part of the British Constitution. In the government of this country, everything that is not done by Act of Parliament is done by the Queen under the advice of Her Majesty's Privy Counsellors. The Privy Council is a permanent list of eminent men called by Her Majesty to be her advisers, and entitled, from the time that their names are graciously added to the list, to be called "Right Honourables."

Men of both political parties are on the list, but the Queen calls to advise with her only those whose presence she thinks fit to command on any particular occasion, and Privy Counsellors who are not sent for are not entitled to be present. What we call the Cabinet is nothing more than a selection of Privy Counsellors understood to enjoy the special confidence of Her



A NURSERY, GREAT WILD STREET

the Act that, without any previous inquiry into the amount of existing accommodation, London should have a School Board. As a matter of fact, in that same month of November, 1870, when the first London School Board election was held, and in the early days of December, School Boards were elected in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Sheffield, Salford, Nottingham, Bradford, Gateshead, Middlesbrough, Bolton, Bootle, Rochdale, Stockton, Congleton, Maidstone, Bridgewater, Coventry, Swansea, Aberystwith, and Cardigan; and the London Board was, by a day or two, not quite the first to be elected; but in all those provisional boroughs the adoption of the School Board principle was the voluntary act of the Town Councils, which, by an impulse of public spirit, set themselves under the new Act by resolutions at their first municipal meetings on the 9th of November; while in the metropolis the School Board was elected under a fiat of the Committee of Council on Education, in accordance with the provisions of the section of this Act. One other essential difference there was between the election of the London Board and that of the Boards of the great boroughs of England and Wales. London sent representatives from ten separate metropolitan divisions to form a single School Board, while every country Board was elected solidly by the whole population. Again, the largest School Boards outside the metropolis consisted of only fifteen members, while the London Board was constituted at that time of forty-nine members, representing in groups of four, five, six, or seven, according to the number of the population, the divisions of the City, Chelsea, Finsbury, Greenwich, Hackney, Lambeth, Marylebone, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Westminster. Since then the increase of population has been greater in some divisions than in others, and Lambeth has grown so large that it is now made into the two divisions of East and West Lambeth; additional Members have been given from time to time where the population has increased; and the representation now stands thus:—the City, four members; Chelsea, five; Finsbury, six; Greenwich, four; Hackney, five; East Lambeth, four; West Lambeth, six; Marylebone, seven; Southwark, four; Tower Hamlets, five; and Westminster, five; making a total of fifty-five. There are two or three minor differences in the law between the London and the country Boards. One is that the London Board may, if they think fit, pay their Chairman a salary, just as a Member of the Government or the Chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works is paid; and



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Majesty for the time being, and no man can be in the Cabinet who is not first made a Privy Councillor. Now the Education Department is simply a Committee of Privy Counsellors entrusted by Her Majesty, under the advice of the Cabinet, with the task of distributing the money voted by Parliament in aid of public elementary education.



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compulsion were twice changed by subsequent legislation. In the first place Lord Sandon's Act, passed in 1876, provided that wherever there were bye-laws in existence for compulsory attendance

It is the business of this Committee of Council to lay down the conditions under which a share of this money, called the Government Grant, shall be paid to schools; and since the Education Act says that a Board School "shall be conducted in accordance with the conditions required to be fulfilled by an Elementary School in order to obtain an annual Parliamentary grant," it becomes evident that the general character of the schools and of the instruction given in them is determined beforehand, over the heads of the School Boards, by the Committee of Council.

the Education Department, make bye-laws for all or any of the following purposes." The School Board frames a code of bye-laws and sends it to the Department for approval. But even the mere approval of the Committee of Council will not give the bye-laws validity. There must actually be a meeting of the Privy Counsellors, Members of this Committee, with Her Majesty in Council, and the code of bye-laws must be formally sanctioned by the Queen. The bye-laws are then printed in full in the *London Gazette*, and are of the same force as an Act of Parliament. A code of School Board bye-laws are, in fact, a set of "Orders in Council," regulating the attendance of children in the School Board district; and can only be rendered invalid by another Order in Council.

The Committee of Council was, of course, in existence long before School Boards were thought of. It has been at work ever since the time when Parliament first made a grant in aid of public elementary education, in the year 1839. From 1839 to 1870 Parliament did nothing in the way of providing or controlling the arrangements of schools. The grant was given in aid of the maintenance of existing Voluntary Schools, and also of the building of new Voluntary Schools, and in help towards the support of training colleges for public Elementary School teachers. The Committee of Council laid down rules to be observed in the constitution of schools and in the instruction of children; they appointed examiners called Her Majesty's Inspectors, to visit the schools and report, and upon the fulfilment of these conditions and on the production of "results" the grant was paid.

The position of the Committee of Council in relation to the Voluntary School System, when the only Public Elementary Schools were Voluntary Schools, is continued without very much change in relation to Board Schools. The School Boards must submit their plans for new schools to the office in Whitehall, and all the rules laid down by their lordships must be observed. As an example of the conditions, it is prescribed by the Department that there must not be less than eighty cubic feet of space for each child in average attendance in the school, while the floor space must not be less than eight square feet per child. This is the old rule as applied to Voluntary Schools; but in the case of Board Schools a more liberal allowance, up to nine or ten square feet of space, is usually exacted by their lordships. Indeed the School Board, in submitting the plans, must declare how many children the building is intended to accommodate, and on the plans being approved by their lordships for a given number of children, the Board may not admit a greater number to the school, even though the space exceeds eight or nine or ten square feet per child.

THE CODE

A VERY different thing from the code of bye-laws for compelling the attendance of children at school is THE CODE, better known as the "New Code," or "The Revised Code," and described officially as the "Code of Regulations, with Schedules, by the Right Honourable the Lords of the Committee of the Privy Council on Education," and the "Code of Minutes of the Education Department." It is simply the set of rules under which the Committee of Council distributes to the public Elementary Schools and the Training Colleges for Teachers the sum of money voted by Parliament for that purpose. Here is a summary of the principal conditions laid down by their Lordships which must be fulfilled as to the school itself before it can be entitled to a grant:—

"Elementary" education must be the principal part of the education given in the school. The ordinary fee to be paid by the child must not exceed ninepence a week. The child shall not be required to attend or abstain from attending any Sunday School, or any place of religious worship; and shall not be required to attend any religious service or instruction in religious subjects in the schools or elsewhere if the parent objects. No child may be refused admission to the school on other than reasonable grounds (their lordships being the final judges as to what is reasonable). The school, when application is first made for a grant, must be shown to be necessary. The school must not be conducted for private profit. The principal teacher must be "certificated" (having passed successfully certain examinations, &c.). The school must be open not less than 400 half-days in the year. The school buildings must be, to the satisfaction of the Department, healthy, well-lighted, warmed, drained, ventilated, properly furnished, provided with suitable offices, and must contain sufficient accommodation for the children in attendance. The income of the school must be applied only for the "purpose of public Elementary Schools."

There are some distinctions between Voluntary Schools and Board Schools in these conditions. In Voluntary Schools the managers fix their own rate of children's fees, up to the ninepenny maximum; in Board Schools the scale of fees must be approved by the Department. If there is no School Board in the district a new school is not considered "unnecessary" if it has an average attendance of thirty children; but in a School Board district, if there is already sufficient and suitable accommodation, the grant is refused to a new school, Voluntary or otherwise, and the School Board may not build, or spend any money upon, an unnecessary school.

There must be a body of managers to each school, responsible to the Department for the conduct and efficiency of the school, for the care of the health of the scholars in the course of instruction and in preparation for examination, for the provision of needful furniture, books, apparatus, registers, &c. In the case of Board Schools the School Board are the managers; but the School Board may appoint a body of managers for each or all of their schools, such managers being not necessarily Members of the School Board.

A register of the attendance of the children and other records must be carefully kept.

THE CODE SCHEME OF INSTRUCTION

THE manner in which the grant is awarded regulates the instruction given. But first there is a fixed grant of 4s. 6d. for every child in "average attendance." That is to say, the total number of full half-day attendances made by all the children in the year is divided



SKETCHED IN DRURY LANE SCHOOL.

for the Home and War Departments, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the First Lord of the Admiralty, the Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, the Right Hon. Edward Stanley, and the Right Hon. Sir Henry Holland. When any great question of education has to be considered, these Privy Counsellors are called together, an event which does not happen, perhaps, on an average more than once in a year. The Lord President of Her Majesty's Privy Council (now



IN A LAVATORY—9 A.M.

Lord Cranbrook) is President of the Committee, and the Vice-President is Sir Henry Holland. The President and Vice-President carry on the business of the Department, and are responsible to Parliament. Every decision which they arrive at, apart from merely administering former decisions, is a decree having very much the force of an Act of Parliament, for it can only be annulled by the Queen; and the only way in which Parliament can deal with it is by



CHILDREN IN A SEVEN DIALS SCHOOL

the adoption of a resolution praying Her Majesty to recall or alter the decree. The decrees are "Orders in Council," and must be sanctioned by Her Majesty in Council. There is a good example of the procedure in the case of the bye-laws of the School Boards for compelling the attendance of children at school. The Act of Parliament says: "Every School Board may, from time to time, with the approval of



READING CLASS, CLARE MARKET

by the number of times that the school meets, and the answer to the little division sum gives the number of children for whom the Department allows the school four shillings and sixpence each.

Then there is the "merit grant," given not for educational results in any particular subjects, but for the general organisation and discipline of the school, the intelligence employed in the instruction, and the general quality of the work, especially in the elementary subjects, allowance being made for "the special circumstances of the case." In these respects, if the Inspector reports the school to be "excellent," there is a grant of 3s. per child; if "good," 2s.; if "fair," 1s.

Next come the grants for subjects. They are paid on the results of the annual examination by H.M. Inspector. Take first the "elementary subjects"—reading, writing, and arithmetic. All the children in the school must be presented for examination in reading, writing, and arithmetic, and if they are absent without a good excuse they will be set down as having failed, which amounts by the method of counting to a forfeit of so much grant.

The manner of counting and paying for passes is peculiar and ingenious. This is how the legend runs: "The percentage of passes will be determined by the ratio of the passes actually made by the scholars liable to examination to those that might have been made by all such scholars who either are examined, or are absent, or withheld from examination without reasonable excuse," and the grant is paid "at the rate of one penny for every unit of percentage." This will not be quite clear at first sight to every person who has not enjoyed the advantages of an education at a public elementary school. Suppose there are the names of 100 children on the register. Then if 100 children pass the examination successfully in the three subjects there will be a grant of a hundred pence to the school for each child. Eight shillings and fourpence per child is therefore the highest possible grant that a school can receive for successful instruction in reading,



LESSON IN PERSONAL CLEANLINESS



SOME BOYS AT ORANGE STREET, BOROUGH

writing, and arithmetic; and one school of 100 children will have to take one hundred times one hundred pence, equal to 417. 13s. 4d., out of the taxation of the country for this part of the work. There are, of course, three passes to each completely successful child, and if there is not a single failure there will be in the school in question 300 passes, which must be divided by three in order to get at the percentage. This, therefore, is the process: add together all the passes in reading, all those in writing, and all those in arithmetic; divide the result by three, and find the ratio of the quotient to the number of children whose names are on the school register as to whom there is no good excuse for not being examined. The fact

that the children are examined in different standards makes no difference. There is the same grant for a pass in the First Standard as for a pass in the Seventh.

It ought to be understood that the inspection in reading, writing,

twenty hours during the school year at a cookery class of not more than 24 scholars," and must have spent "not less than 20 hours in cooking with her own hands." Moreover girls presented for examination in cookery will not earn a grant if they have been presented for examination in more than one specific subject.

Such are the principal conditions and safeguards. The grants are similar in principle, but different in details, in Infant Schools. In theory the utmost possible grant per scholar that might be set down to the credit of a school is a little under 30s. a year, but practically this maximum is an impossibility of attainment, and there are important deductions, which would require a long technical explanation, in the case of high or relatively high aggregate results. The maximum grant for infants is 17s. each. The grants earned in the London Board Schools are comparatively high. They are about 19s. 6d. for boys and girls and 15s. 6d. for infants.

OTHER GRANTS

THERE are certain special grants, on account of pupil teachers and assistant teachers, engaged under particular circumstances, who pass meritorious examinations; and there is a system of grants for the encouragement of evening schools.

The grants in aid of Training Colleges for Teachers (which are all established and conducted on the voluntary principle) take the form of a payment of 100*l.* to the college for every master and 70*l.* for every mistress who, having been trained in the college, becomes a certificated teacher—the money being awarded under a set of conditions and stipulations. In the performance of these functions the Lords of the Committee

libraries of the future is a complete set of volumes up to date, for these fifteen years since the Act was passed, of the *School Board Chronicle*, the weekly record of the debates and of the work of the London and country School Boards.

These archives show that the London Board was elected on November 29th, 1870, and that among its forty-nine members were these men and women of note and distinction: The late Lord Lawrence, Lord Sandon (since then Lord President of the Committee of Council and now Lord Harrowby), the late William Hepworth Dixon, Professor Huxley, the late Sir Charles (then Mr.) Reed, Miss Garrett, M.D. (now Mrs. Garrett-Anderson), Mr. Alfred (now Bishop) Barry, Mr. Edward North Buxton, Alderman Cotton, Canon Cromwell, Mr. (now Sir Edmund Hay) Currie, Miss Emily Davies, Dr.



BLIND CLASS, SHADWELL

and arithmetic is the only compulsory examination. No school is under any obligation, in its relations with the Education Department, to teach more than these three subjects. But, lest any reader should jump hastily to the conclusion that, apart from the merits of the question from the educational point of view, there is bad economy on the part of school managers and School Boards in teaching more advanced subjects, we must hasten to point out that the Lords of the Committee of Council offer such inducements, in the shape of special grants for more advanced subjects, as to render it, under favourable conditions, a matter of economy and profit to teach the higher subjects. There is a grant of 1*s.* to the school of 1*s.* for every girl in average attendance if needlework is taught satisfactorily; a similar grant of 1*s.* per child if singing is taught satisfactorily by note, and 6*d.* if taught by ear.

Then we come to the "Class Subjects," which are English, Drawing, Geography, Elementary Science, History, and Needlework for Girls. For every child that passes "fair" there is 1*s.*, and for passing "good" 2*s.* in each subject; not more than three subjects may be taken. In any case one of the subjects must be English; and if three subjects are taken the second must be drawing.

Next come the "Specific Subjects." For each subject in which the scholar passes the examination there is a grant of 4*s.* Only children in Standard V., VI., or VII. are permitted to take specific subjects; and specific subjects are not allowed in any school in which in the previous year the percentage of passes in the elementary subjects was less than 70. The Code list of specific subjects are Algebra, Euclid and Mensuration, Mechanics, Chemistry, Physics, Animal Physiology, Botany, Principles of Agriculture, Latin, French, and Domestic Economy. Other subjects, under certain conditions, may be added. In these subjects the scholars are examined individually. No scholar may be examined in more than two specific subjects.

There is also a grant of 4*s.* for every girl who is taught cooking, under certain conditions, but the girl must not be below the Fourth



COOKERY CLASS, MARLBOROUGH ROAD

of Privy Council employ a large staff of Inspectors and Assistant Inspectors to visit and examine the children, and students in the schools and Training Colleges, to send in to the Council Office in Whitehall the returns on which the grants are assessed, and to make official reports upon the Public Elementary Schools and Training Colleges of the country; and the reports of these Inspectors fill some hundreds of pages every year of the huge volume issued by the Queen's printers, known to those engaged in the work as the Education Blue Book, and more formally as the Report of the Committee of Council on Education with Appendices.

In the great Office of the Education Department in Whitehall, near Downing Street, adjoining the Privy Council Office, besides the large staff of clerks and writers, there are always at work a body of superior officials called Examiners, whose business it is to investigate and assess the returns made by H.M. Inspectors, so as to bring out in due form the share of grant to be paid over to the Schools and the Training Colleges.

Such are the relations between our system of public elementary schools and Her Majesty's Government; but in passing from the Department to the Schools, we encounter (in the case of the Board Schools) the School Boards, and in particular, the

SCHOOL BOARD FOR LONDON

THE official designation of this great corporation is the School Board for London, and not the London School Board, and this distinguishes the metropolitan from all the provincial Boards, which are officially entitled the Liverpool School Board, the Manchester School Board, &c. In the official library of the London Board, at the offices on the Victoria Embankment, is a handsome and increasing set of very stout quarto volumes, labelled in crimson and green: "School Board for London: Minutes of Proceedings," embalming the whole history of the Board's meetings, its resolutions and amendments lost and carried, its division lists, the full reports of Committees, and the roll of correspondence and documents. Another set of these well-bound and brilliantly-lettered books is kept on the book shelves at the Office of the Committee of Council at Whitehall; and in an adjoining bookcase in each of these historic



DEAF AND DUMB CLASS

J. C. (afterwards Canon) Miller, the Rev. A. W. (afterwards Bishop) Thorold, Mr. Samuel Morley, M.P., Mr. James Allanson-Picton, M.P., the Rev. Dr. Rigg (now an ex-President of the Wesleyan Conference), the late Rev. John Rodgers, Mr. W. H. Smith, M.P. (since then First Lord of the Admiralty, and now Secretary of State for War), Mr. M'Cullagh Torrens, M.P., the late Mr. James Watson (for

many years the able Chairman of the Statistical Committee), Mr. John M'Gregor (of the "Rob Roy" canoe), and the following gentlemen who have from 1870 until now never ceased to be members of the Board: Mr. Robert Freeman (for many years the Board's "Chancellor of the Exchequer," and now Vice-Chairman) and Mr. Benjamin Lucraft (the special representative of the working-class interest). Mr. William Pearce has been a member for the Tower Hamlets from the beginning, except for the period between 1873 and 1876. Every part of the Board's work has more or less connection with the provision of accommodation and the work of the schools, but the conduct of the schools is under the control of the School Management Committee. An important part, however, of the work of this Committee was for awhile performed by the provisional body called the Scheme of Education Committee, of which Professor Huxley was Chairman. This Committee made a long, elaborate, and interesting report to the Board in June, 1871, submitting recommendations as to the sizes of schools (strongly in favour of large schools), the proportion of teachers to scholars, hours of instruction, the limitation and regulation of corporal punishment, music and drill, &c. The essential subjects were to be morality and religion, reading, writing, and arithmetic, English grammar, mensuration, systematic object lessons, history, geography,



TEACHING THE SOUND OF "K"

social economy, drawing, and plain needlework. Among the discretionary subjects were algebra and geometry, and Latin, or a modern language. There were also recommendations for the setting up of evening classes, and for the formation and encouragement of music and art classes. To this report were appended minority protests. Canon Cromwell and Lord Sandon objected to Latin or modern languages in Board Schools, and Mr. Picton demurred to the introduction of religious instruction in evening schools.

Large modifications were made in this scheme, both then and from time to time afterwards; but it is the basis of the plan of education in the London Board Schools.

The earliest operation of the Board in Board School work was the establishment of temporary schools during the process of building. And during all these fifteen years there have always been temporary Board Schools carrying on the work, in anticipation of the opening of the new buildings. As soon as this important business was fairly set in motion, the late Rev. John Rodgers was appointed Chairman of the School Management Committee, a position which he held until his death in 1880, when the Rev. Mark Wilks was elected to this important and arduous office, which in the time of Mr. Rodgers,



A PARENT SUMMONED AT WESTMINSTER POLICE COURT



TEACHING NEEDLEWORK

Standard in her elementary subjects, and it is a condition "that special and appropriate provision is made for the practical teaching of cookery by a teacher holding a certificate from some training school of cookery," and the girl must have attended "not less than

as in the time of Mr. Wilks, from 1880 until now, occupies about half the Chairman's time. The Rev. John Rodgers, like his successor in this office, was an exceptionally zealous and enthusiastic educationalist. His creed on the subject was expressed with great point and force in one of his addresses to the ratepayers of Finsbury, in the triennial election of 1879, in these words:—"I desire to see education in this country universal and efficient, an education calculated to produce an enlightened and prosperous nation that shall hold its own among the nations of the world, by the Wisdom of its Councils, by the Prestige of its Power, by the Integrity of its Commerce, by the Skill of its Manufactures, by the Moral Influence of its Character." Mr. Rodgers set the stamp of his character and influence upon the Board Schools of London, and in the same spirit the work has been followed up Mr. Wilks in the 390 Board Schools now giving instruction to the 370,000 Board School children.

SCHOOL MANAGERS

BODIES of local managers are appointed by the Board, not generally for single schools, but for groups of schools. The Managers' Committees consist of ladies and gentlemen, and range in number from eight to twenty members. Like the members of the Board itself, the local managers give their services voluntarily. They are nominated by the School Board Members for the Division, and appointed by the Board. The official work is performed by an officer called the "School Correspondent," generally salaried. As between the schools and the Education Department, this is the only official whose communications are recognised. The managers, from their knowledge of the surrounding population, recommend the scale of fees to be charged for admission to each new school placed under their care. Their recommendation goes up to the Board for adoption, and thence to the Education Department for final sanction. The managers also select the teachers, subject to the approval of the Board, given as a rule upon the recommendation of the School Management Committee. An important part of the duties of the local managers is performed by what are called the Health Sub-Committees. One of these Sub-Committees is appointed by each body of managers. It consists of not less than three persons, "one of whom should, if



girls' DRILL, MARLBOROUGH ROAD

possible, be a doctor and one a lady." These Sub-Committees have to consider and decide whether a child should be exempt from examination on account of its health or of any mental defect. They have to see the pupils, consider the condition of their homes, and make inquiries of the parents with regard to the children's health. It is, again, the business of the managers to keep the teachers to their work, to promote punctuality, to watch school registers, and in every possible way to bring themselves into personal contact and acquaintance with the children, the parents, and the teachers.

The public are becoming familiar with the fact that the School Managers' Committees have lately become a large organised body,

general scheme and system of school management, and it has also had the useful effect of defining with greater clearness than before the relations between the managers as a body and the Board. There is yet, however, considerable open controversy as to what should be the scope and limit of the School Managers' powers and functions, in their relation with the Board on the one hand and the schools on the other. A very important and critical part of their work is the selection of teachers; for though the actual appointment is formally made by the School Board, the matter rests practically with the Managers.

THE LONDON BOARD INSPECTORS

QUITE early in the progress of the work the Board found it necessary to engage the services of Board School Inspectors. There are now six of these officers performing among them the inspection of the 390 Board Schools, the Shaftesbury Industrial School Training Ship, the Brentwood London Board Industrial School, the Upton House Truant School, and the schools recently established for the special instruction of pupil teachers. The salaries of these Inspectors commence at 300*l.* per annum, with an additional allowance of 50*l.* for travelling expenses. They are a very able and experienced body of practical educationists. They visit the schools frequently, see that the school staff is correct and proper in a state of efficiency, look after the school registers; and they especially watch over, control, and take measures for the improvement of the methods of instruction. They examine all candidates for apprenticeship as pupil teachers, with the view of securing

that only intelligent and promising young people are accepted by the Board, and they report upon these same pupil teachers at the end of the second year of training, as to the chance of their becoming qualified teachers, and as to whether, on the other hand, six months' notice should be given them to quit the service of the Board. The aim of this part of the system is to make sure, as far as possible, that not a single inefficient teacher is taken from the ranks of the pupil teachers. The Inspectors attend what are called the "rota" weekly meetings of the School Management Committee, and report upon the whole condition of the school work throughout their respective districts.

THE REQUISITION LIST

ANOTHER important part of the duties of the Board's Inspectors is to pay careful attention to the "Requisition List." This needs a word of explanation. A Sub-Committee of the School Management Committee, having control of the supply of books and apparatus to the schools, examine specimens of all new school books, charts, maps, &c., as they are published, and decide in each case whether they shall be added to the Requisition List. This is a list from which the head teacher selects the books, &c., for his school. The Inspector examines and revises the teacher's order upon the Store Department. He knows what quantities are required, and it has been said that in this one check alone upon leakage and waste, the amount of the salaries of the Inspectors is saved to the School Board fund.

SCHOOL FEES

THE fees in the London Board Schools range from a penny to ninepence a-week. There is no free Board School in the metropolis, nor indeed anywhere in England and Wales. The Board has power under the Act of Parliament to "remit" or forego the fee in case of poverty. The aggregate amount of fees collected in a year is about 120,000*l.*, and the remission of fees amounts to little short of 10,000*l.* a-year, while a very large sum in the shape of irrecoverable arrears is annually struck off the accounts. There are very few schools with fees as high as ninepence a-week, and there are many penny schools in poor neighbourhoods.

The fees are paid weekly, in advance, on Monday morning. They are collected by the teacher of each class. The money is handed to the head teacher, with the entries in the fee book. There is a staff of "pay clerks" at the Board's Offices, who go round to the schools once a month and take the fees of the head master, at the same time paying the teachers their salaries for the month. The money passes into the General School Fund at the Board Offices, and finds its way into the hands of the Board's Treasurers, who are the Governor and Directors of the Bank of England.

THE STANDARDS

CHILDREN are received into the schools for instruction at three years of age. At the age of seven they pass out of the infants' department into the boys' or girls' department. After the first course of infant instruction they enter Standard I. The Standards are seven in number. In order to pass the examination in the First Standard the child must read, to the satisfaction of H.M. Inspector, "a short paragraph from a book, not confined to words of one syllable." He must "copy in manuscript characters a line of print, and write from dictation not more than ten easy words, commencing with capital letters;" the copy books (large, or half-text hand) to be shown to the Inspector. In Arithmetic he is tested in notation and numeration up to 1,000; in simple addition and subtraction of numbers of not more than three figures; not more than five lines to be given in addition; and in the multiplication table up to six times twelve. Some conception may be formed of the work by comparing this with what is demanded of the child in passing the Seventh Standard:—

"To read a passage from Shakespeare or Milton, or from some other standard author, or from a history of England.
"A theme or letter. Composition, spelling, and handwriting to be considered.
"Note books and exercise books to be shown.
"Compound proportion, averages, and percentages."
But the Sixth Standard in London (and the Fifth generally, and sometimes the Fourth in the country) is the Standard on passing

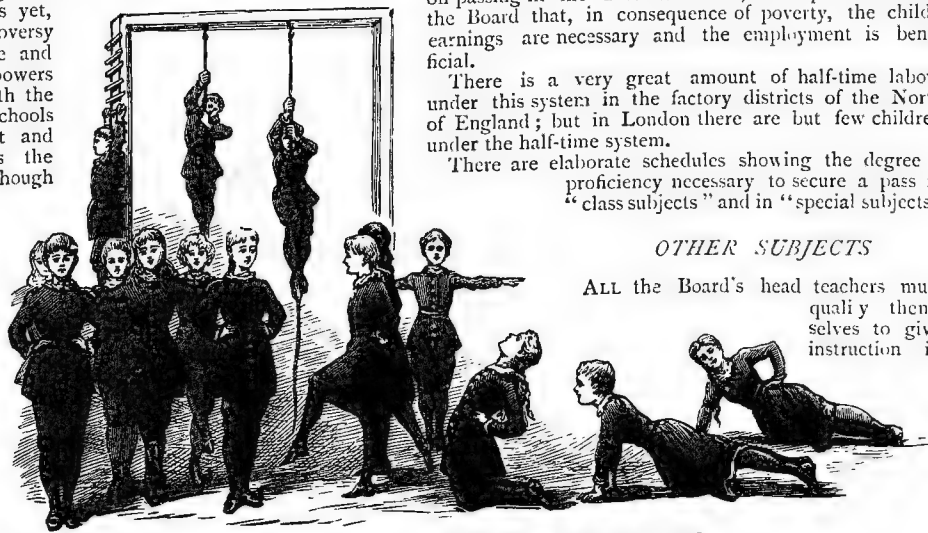
which the child between the ages of ten and thirteen is exempted from compulsory attendance at school; and the child over ten years of age may be at work half time and at school half time on passing in the Third Standard, if the parent satisfies the Board that, in consequence of poverty, the child's earnings are necessary and the employment is beneficial.

There is a very great amount of half-time labour under this system in the factory districts of the North of England; but in London there are but few children under the half-time system.

There are elaborate schedules showing the degree of proficiency necessary to secure a pass in "class subjects" and in "special subjects."

OTHER SUBJECTS

ALL the Board's head teachers must qualify themselves to give instruction in



SWEDISH EXERCISE AT LIMEHOUSE—SOME POSITIONS

drill. The Board employs a General Drill Instructor to instruct the teachers; and there must be drill in every school under the Board's regulations.

In every school there must be at least one responsible teacher holding a certificate for teaching singing.

RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION

ALL the world is familiar with the famous Parliamentary compromise on the subject of religious instruction. This part of the education in Public Elementary Schools is wholly optional. Neither the School Boards nor the managers of Voluntary Schools are under any obligation to provide for religious instruction or observances. As a matter of fact, there is a considerable list of School Boards in England and Wales which exclude this feature from their work. The "Conscience Clause" was not the invention of Parliament in 1870. It had been in operation in Voluntary Schools for many years. Its object was to enable a parent to withdraw his child from the religious instruction given in the school which the child might be attending. Neither was "undenominational religious instruction" first heard of in connection with Mr. Forster's Act. It had been the system, under the British and Foreign School Society, in the British Schools, for a very long time; and the scheme of the British and Foreign Schools Society was to a very great extent the basis of the Parliamentary compromise in Board Schools. The arrangement under the Act of Parliament is that, if religious instruction is given in Board Schools, it shall be given in a certain fixed time before or after the hours set apart for the various subjects of secular instruction; and, in the words of what has always been known as the "Cowper-Temple Clause" of Mr. Forster's Act, "No religious catechism or religious formula which is distinctive of any particular denomination shall be taught in the school." The scheme of religious instruction introduced into the Board Schools, based upon this section of the Act, was once defined as "Board School religion," and by that name it has often since been called.

The doors of the London Board Schools are closed at 9 o'clock, when the roll is called for prayers. Immediately after prayers the children who have assembled in the mean time are admitted, and from that time until 9.40 the religious instruction is given. There is no exception to this work of religious instruction in any of the Board Schools of London. From a few minutes after 9 until 9.40 the 370,000 London Board School children are receiving this instruction, and the withdrawal of a child under the Conscience Clause is a thing almost unknown throughout the metropolis. It is a part of the regulations that if any children should be withdrawn from religious instruction by the wish of the parents, such children should not be left outside the school, but should receive some kind of secular teaching in another part of the building. At 9.40, before the commencement of the secular instruction, the doors are again opened, the roll is called, and the attendance register is filled up.

The Board's syllabus of religious instruction provides for the reading of the Bible with "such explanations and such instruction therefrom in the principles of morality and religion as are suited to the capacities of the children." The syllabus is carefully constructed for the several standards into which the children are classed. The Government Department, in accordance with the Act of Parliament, take no notice of the religious instruction. Their Inspectors do not examine in it, and no grant is made for it. An examination in religious instruction in the London Board Schools is made annually by the Board's own Inspectors, and prizes are given for proficiency—not by the School Board, but from a voluntary fund accepted by the Board from outside. The very interesting and generally highly satisfactory reports of the Board Inspectors on this part of the Board Schools' work are published and widely circulated every year.

THE TEACHERS

THE great majority of the teachers in Public Elementary Schools come by a sort of process of natural selection from the ranks of the children who attend those schools. Promising young scholars are drifted into the profession. They begin, at not less than thirteen years of age, as candidates on probation. The candidates must have passed an examination in Standard V. or Standard VI., and in two of the class subjects. At the end of the year of probation they must pass in Standard VI. or Standard VII., and in two class subjects. They then enter upon a period of apprenticeship to the School Board, and are pupil-teachers. The pupil-teachers must pass an examination at the end of each year of apprenticeship. Under the old system—still generally followed in the provinces—the pupil-teachers were exclusively under the instruction of the head master or head mistress of the school in which they served, and the head master or mistress, as the case might be, was responsible for their education, and would receive their assistance in the work of the school.

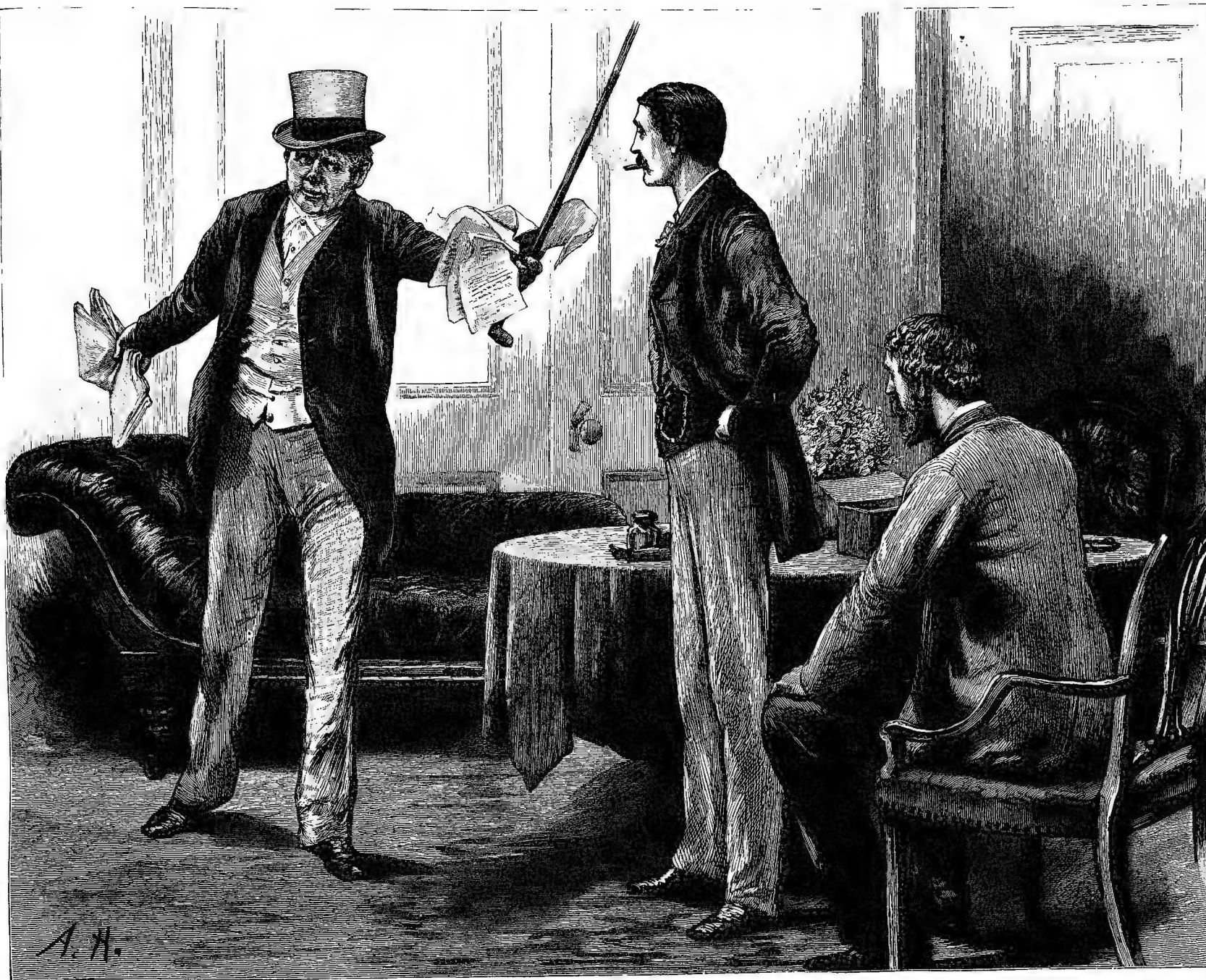


BEFORE THE MAGISTRATE—ORDERED TO AN INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL



SCULLERY WORK—WASHING UP

representing the whole of the Board Schools of the metropolis. The large central "Committee of Representative Managers of London Board Schools" is under the presidency of Mr. Sydney Buxton, M.P., who was for some years, until his defeat in the division of Westminster in the triennial election of 1882, Chairman of the Bye-Laws Committee of the Board. This organisation has been the means of introducing changes and improvements into the



DRAWN BY ARTHUR HOPKINS

"Striding to O'Rourke, Fraser thrust the journal he carried into his face, and flourishing his stick as if he were trying the temper of a foil, cried, 'Look at that, ye voyper!'"

FIRST PERSON SINGULAR

By DAVID CHRISTIE MURRAY,

Author of "Joseph's Coat," "Coals of Fire," "Val Strange," "Hearts," "A Model Father," &c.

CHAPTER XXIX.

TOWN was filling fast after the Whitsuntide Recess, and O'Rourke was back in London, engaging less warmly than of old in his Parliamentary and journalistic warfare with the world. It all mattered so little now that he fought listlessly. He suffered a good deal of the journalistic work to lapse out of his hands, and if he made a brilliant speech or two in the House he did less of the actual labour which falls to the lot of a party politician than he had been in the habit of doing. He was gayer than ever in manner, and more sympathetically charming than ever, for he had time to cultivate the friendly emotions, and his new leisure was for the most part devoted to social joys. The little widow stayed on in Houfoy and kept her own secret. For his part O'Rourke would have been pleased to reveal the secret, for apart from the pleasure and pride of it, an actual and palpable result in the loosening of credit might reasonably be looked for, and at this epoch of his career, as almost always, the Patriot was a little pressed for money. He had always been light-hearted under his money-troubles, and had been wont to say in his own charming manner that his creditors had better grounds for grief than he had. But now there was an actual feel of triumphant humour in being dunned a little. Possession in prospective of a lady who owned six millions of dollars, and importunately bullied to pay a tailor's bill! The conjunction of circumstances was piquant.

Each gave each a double charm
Like pearls upon an Ethiop's arm.

He noticed in himself a growing sweetness of humour. He had never been of a bitter temper, but he had been accustomed to look at the rich with a certain defiance, which was perhaps inseparable from a well-balanced conception of their deserts and his own. Now he regarded them with complacency, as being of his own sphere.

He heard casually that Maskelyne was staying on in London, but he did not go to see him, being moved by a sense of mischievous fun to wait until Maskelyne should play the next card in his game.

"You played with such an air of innocence," said O'Rourke, apostrophising his friend, "that I am sure you would be hurt if I were to display so much ill-natured cunning as to see through your little game. Of course you would be greatly relieved to know that your card has taken the trick, but then you must look at the game and find that out for yourself. And since your card has taken the trick, George, it's you to lead, by all rules of the game."

O'Rourke thinking thus, lay idly upon a chintz sofa in his sitting-room. His bright face was turned to the ceiling, one slippered foot was thrown over the back of the sofa, and the other patted the carpet. He moved a lighted cigar to and fro before his nostrils, sniffing its odours. The window was open, and the warmth and brightness of the summer noon filled the somewhat dingy chamber.

The maid tapped at the door, and being told to enter, appeared with a card pinched in one corner of her apron. O'Rourke laughed when he saw her, for in his mind's eye he saw the gilded glorious menial and the solid silver salver of the near future, and the maid's unsophisticated service charmed him by contrast. Any and every little social and domestic cloud grew rosy with the dawning light of the pretty widow's six millions of dollars behind it.

O'Rourke took the card, and, reading Maskelyne's name upon it, smiled brightly, and arose to his feet.

"Ask the gentleman to be so good as to walk this way," he said, twinkling with half-suppressed humour. The maid retired. "So you've come to look at the cards, have you, George? But Mrs. Spry insists upon having you blindfolded for a little while longer. I know it's hard lines, but can I help you?"

Maskelyne, with his narrow figure close-buttoned in his frock coat, came striding up stairs with a supernatural gravity of expression. This changed for one moment to a delightful smile when O'Rourke ran out to the landing-place to meet him, with both hands outstretched in friendly welcome. But poor Maskelyne's smile was the merest gleam in duration, and by the time O'Rourke, with his own warm-hearted impulsiveness, had drawn him by both hands into the sitting-room, he was once more as solemn as a picture.

"My dear old fellow!" said O'Rourke, with both the dear old fellow's hands in his. "Not tired of England yet? I have an idle hour or two to-day, and had resolved to come round and take a look at you."

"Yes," said Maskelyne. "I heard you were back in town again."

"Sit down," said O'Rourke, backing him to a chair and thrusting him into it by the shoulders. He resigned him with a little friendly shake, a frequent natural trick of his, and then, taking a backward step or two, stood and looked at him with a face full of friendliness and welcome.

"Upon my word," said Maskelyne, "You are a man to be envied."

"I?" said O'Rourke, with a grimace, and then a brighter smile than ever. "Am I? Why?"

"You have the power of benefiting your fellow creatures," returned Maskelyne. "You are like fresh air."

O'Rourke laughed breezily, and took stock of his friend with smiling eyes. He saw that Maskelyne was pale, and almost haggard. "Come," he said. "It strikes me that you want fresh air. You're not looking well, old fellow."

"Do you think not?" asked Maskelyne, carelessly, as if it were an indifferent thing. "O'Rourke! I'm going to surprise you."

"Are you?" asked O'Rourke. Maskelyne sat facing the window, and it was natural that O'Rourke should drop into a chair in front of him. Against the bright light of out of doors, his features were so dim as to be almost invisible. "You won't see it even if you do surprise me, George," he said inwardly.

"I am causing some unnecessary anxiety to the authorities of Scotland Yard," said Maskelyne. "I think it's in consequence of my having been a good deal with Dobroski of late. At any rate I am being watched. My goings out and comings in are observed with constant vigilance."

"Stupid beggars," said O'Rourke with friendly petulance. "Abominably annoying, isn't it?"

"I don't know," returned Maskelyne. "It makes me feel nice and safe." O'Rourke laughed at this, and Maskelyne smiled transiently. "But it is not worth while to cocker up a mere private citizen of the United States in that way. The old country is well-to-do, but she can't afford it. And I don't think I should feel humbled any way, if my body-guard got told off to some one else, who was more in want of it."

"I'll stop all that for you," said O'Rourke.

"There's a good fellow," answered Maskelyne, and fell into silence. O'Rourke looking at him felt a sort of good-humoured contempt for him. Really, all poor Maskelyne's little games were childishly transparent. His pretences were almost pitifully feeble. O'Rourke could almost have found it in his heart to advise him. Dobroski had been a poor stalking-horse at first, and a single employment had quite played him out.

In short, the Patriot had been so long out of the ways of simple honesty that he could no longer understand them. He had played the fox for so many years that now to his mind everybody was dodging and foxing. He extracted great amusement from the imagined elaborate ruses of simple-minded people who were as

guileless as sheep. His keen eye penetrated a prodigious amount of humbug which never existed, and his bright humour rejoiced in it. Of course he allowed that there might be something in this apparently absurd yarn of Maskelyne's. It would be foolish to be too suspicious. But his doubts were shrewd enough to amount to disbelief, even when he had made all reasonable allowances.

"You didn't stay long at Houfoy," said Maskelyne, after a space of silence.

"No," O'Rourke answered. "I had to get back to make one of the great Talkee-Talkee House. But I wasn't at Houfoy. I was staying at Janenne."

"I should have said Janenne," said Maskelyne, with a faint blush. "I suppose you saw a good deal of Houfoy, though. They are all well, I hope—Major Butler and his sister and his niece?"

"Quite well when I left them," returned O'Rourke, enjoying the situation keenly. Maskelyne was embarrassed, but his companion would not help him by a word.

"You have no special news of them, I suppose?" Maskelyne put the question, though it cost him dear, with a reasonable pretence of composure.

"No," said O'Rourke, tranquilly, throwing one leg over the other, and gripping his ankle with both hands. "No special news, so far as I remember."

And now the ice being broken, as he supposed, he waited for Maskelyne to question him about the pretty widow. But as it happened there was nobody in the world who had been more out of Maskelyne's thoughts than Mrs. Spry. He had not given her even so much as an occasional remembrance since O'Rourke and she had started together on their journey to Brussels. O'Rourke, following his preconceived fancies, took Maskelyne's oblivion for diplomacy, and gave him some credit for reticence and patience.

The young American, having lit a cigar, began to wander about the room, looking at the engravings which hung upon the walls, and O'Rourke lay back in his chair in comfortable idleness.

"I haven't seen Fraser this long time," said Maskelyne, and at this instant the knocker on the hall door was brought into play with a violence so remarkable that both he and O'Rourke ran to the windows to see what might be the matter. A hansom cabman, seated on his box, was looking with a face of bovine surprise towards the door, and one or two passengers had turned their heads in the same direction. There was an audible whirl and scurry of petticoats in the hall as the housemaid ran to the door to answer this unusual summons, and a second or two later a voice cried so loudly that O'Rourke and his companion heard it.

"Mr. O'Rourke's within doors! Don't be telling me he's not, for I know he is. I'll find the way myself."

"That is Fraser," said Maskelyne.

"Did you conjure him here?" O'Rourke asked. Steps came flying up the staircase, and Fraser, perspiring and pale, burst into the room holding in his left hand a newspaper and a walking-stick. He closed the door behind him, transferred the walking-stick to his right hand, nodded strangely to Maskelyne, and then striding to O'Rourke thrust the journal he carried into his face, and flourishing his stick as if he were trying the temper of a foil, cried "Look, at that, ye voyper!"

O'Rourke, with a look of wonder, took the journal and retired a pace.

"Oho!" cried Fraser, rolling his head at his ancient comrade so energetically that he rolled his hat off. "Don't be making your faces of innocence at me, Hector O'Rourke. Maybe ye didn't write that? Come, now. Maybe ye didn't write it? Well, ye're a loyar, for write it ye did. And here's the manuscript in your own dirty fist, ye slimy snake." He tugged a little rolled-up bundle of paper from his breast pocket, and stood in a white heat of passion, flourishing it and the stick. O'Rourke smiled with less than his usual spontaneous charm, and Maskelyne set himself between the two. "Ye needn't fear," said Fraser. "I'll not soil me hands with the dirty coat of him. For tew pins," he added, turning anew upon O'Rourke, "I'd cleave the life out of ye."

"This seems likely to be a private affair," said Maskelyne, in his quiet way, "and I won't meddle with it. But we'll have no fighting."

"Private, begorra!" cried Fraser, snorting. "It's that private there's a round fifty thousand copies printed at the very least. Would ye believe it, now, Maskelyne? I put it to you. Ye're not the smartest man alive, but ye're a man of honour, and I put it to you. Here's this dirty villain, here, has been going about with me for years and damaging my reputation by calling me his friend, and borrowing money from me by the handful whenever I had a sixpence in me pockets, and all the toime he's been attacking me anonymously. I've had him bring the articles—the very articles he's written—and wonder at me who was the blagyard that wrote 'em, and making innocent oyes, begad, and swearing he'd like to know the villain that did it."

"Come, come, Fraser," said O'Rourke, "don't make a mountain out of a molehill."

There was something in this reply which so exasperated Fraser that, for Maskelyne's interposition, he would then and there have assaulted O'Rourke.

"I'll molehill the villain," cried Fraser. "I'll mountain him." He struggled to get past Maskelyne, who held him back with an unexpected strength and adroitness. "Ye take that ruffian's part, do ye?" he said, suddenly ceasing his efforts. "Then I disown ye. Ye're no friend of mine."

"My dear Fraser," returned Maskelyne, a little winded by the wrestling. "I am taking your part as much as O'Rourke's. I know nothing of the merits of the quarrel, but you shan't fight if I can help it."

"If ever ye speak to me again," said Fraser, stooping for his hat and shaking it in O'Rourke's face over the intervening Maskelyne's shoulder, "I'll cane ye. I'll take any solitary word ye speak to me as a sign that ye want a hoyding. And that's my farewell to ye."

He followed this declaration by an abrupt exit, ran noisily down stairs, slammed the street door behind him, and drove away in the hansom by which he had arrived.

"There's a Celtic madman for you," said O'Rourke. Maskelyne looked at him with an air of grave inquiry, almost of displeasure, he thought. "I don't know that it *was* altogether fair on my part, but then the beggar provoked it. He has been altogether unamenable to party discipline of late, and I gave him a little satirical dressing down in the hope that it might do him good—bring him to his senses. I confess I didn't want him to know I'd done it, but since he has found it out—he's a thin-skinned fellow, is Fraser, and I'm afraid we're not likely to be friends again."

Maskelyne's look was as inquiring and as grave when O'Rourke had finished this speech as it had been before the speech was begun.

"If you'll wait for me a moment, whilst I dress," the Patriot resumed, with an air of having dismissed the Fraser question as being unworthy of further thought, "I'll drive down to the House and take you with me. I'll introduce you to the Home Secretary, and he will take the trouble to put right that absurd little affair you spoke of awhile ago."

He had not looked at Maskelyne whilst he had spoken thus, being apparently more than half absorbed in arranging two or three handfuls of loose papers which lay about his table.

"I don't want you to take to despising me, George," he said, inwardly, as he changed his dress for out-of-doors. "Perhaps the best way to prevent that will be to show that you are a liar

yourself." He emerged from his dressing-room a moment later. "Shall we go?" he asked, with his candid look fixed full on his companion.

"Yes," said Maskelyne, rather coldly, but with no sign of confusion. "I shall be very much obliged."

"Confound him!" thought O'Rourke. "The yarn may be true after all, foolish as it sounded."

CHAPTER XXX.

WHEN O'Rourke spoke of introducing Maskelyne to the Home Secretary he had used a tone of commonplace, but he meant to impress his friend somewhat with a sense of his own importance. In ordinary circumstances he might have satisfied himself with a note to Scotland Yard, where he was quite well enough known for his present purpose, but after this affair of Fraser's he wanted to do something to rehabilitate himself in Maskelyne's eyes. There were few men less given to boastfulness, but he knew the value of his position, and was willing that other people should know it. Arguing from himself he was persuaded that an outsider ought to be impressed by an introduction to the Home Secretary, and disposed to be lenient to the peccadilloes of the man who could procure that distinction for him. If he had been Maskelyne now, and had just caught somebody in the commission of a meanness, he knew that his judgment of the meanness would be influenced a good deal by such an incident following on it.

O'Rourke was so clever and quick-sighted a man that he could always see more than one bird to be killed by any stone he might happen to throw. It came to pass sometimes that this very keenness of his caused him to miss a good many birds at a single cast. Perhaps in the long run the single-sighted person who throws at one bird at a time and kills it makes a better bag than the smarter sportsman.

If Maskelyne had come with a fib in his hand then he and O'Rourke would be on a level, and the introduction to the Home Secretary would bring that to pass. If, on the other hand, the tale Maskelyne had told should turn out to be true, O'Rourke would at least have done something to set himself beyond the limit of those principles by which people who have no position in the world must consent to be judged.

Maskelyne endured the introduction with calmness, and explained to the great man the nature of his grievance. The great man happened to know of it already, and assured him that he would not suffer again. In these times we were compelled to exert the utmost vigilance. Any association with a man like Dobroski was apt just now to excite the suspicions of the police. But whatever necessity had existed, or had seemed to exist, for watching Maskelyne had been dissipated by the answers the police had received to their inquiries.

The young American thanked the high official, and withdrew. O'Rourke took his arm familiarly, not ill pleased, pending the arrival of his own expected millions, to be seen in friendly association with a man who had millions already. Maskelyne was very grave and cool, and O'Rourke felt that he was reserving himself, and awaiting fuller explanation of the Fraser episode. For his own part he was a little annoyed at detection. Maskelyne was one of those fellows who, without verbally professing a high code of honour, contrived to give people the impression that he held the highest. The Patriot knew this to be a valuable faculty, and would have given something to have the recipe for it. Shrewd as he was it never occurred to him that the true recipe for the appearance was to have the reality. He did not believe much in the existence of the reality. According to his philosophy most people had pretty much the same moral code, and that man's worked the best who contrived to get the most out of society without shocking its conventional pretences.

The plain truth about the Fraser episode—from O'Rourke's point of view—was this. Fraser was an ass, and fair game for anybody's satire. He was always putting himself in the way, had once or twice ventured in his own magnificent thick-headed fashion to reprove O'Rourke publicly in the House, and had brought these pointed retaliations upon himself. Apart from these sufficient considerations, the Fraser articles had each brought in ten pounds ten shillings, and the writer told himself humorously that Fraser had never in any other fashion been worth so much to anybody. Of course it was awkward to have it known that the man who had earned the ten pounds ten shillings was a bosom friend of the man who had put him in the way of earning it, and it was likely enough that, amongst other unpleasant results this discovery might bear, it would help to confirm Mrs. Farley in her ill opinion of him. The Farleys were back in London, Fraser was as thick with them as he himself was, and of course he would be loud in his complaints. But the Patriot cared much less for all this than he would have done a little earlier. He had but to wait for September, and then Mrs. Spry and her dollars would carry him away from all disturbing influences to a sphere of peace and novelty. He was very, very tired of the rough-and-tumble of the world, and he looked to his promised haven with frequent sighs of relief.

His fancy that Fraser might carry the story to the Farleys was justified even before it had occurred to him. The injured member for Ballykillrowdy had directed his hansom straight to Hampstead, burning with his wrongs, and had pulled up at the novelist's door. He still held the crumpled proof of O'Rourke's perfidy in his hand, and had read it more than once upon his journey. Every sentence added a faggot to the fire of his resentment, and before he had reached the end of his brief journey he had grown to a settled white heat of wrath against O'Rourke.

Fraser discharged his cabman, and sounded a more moderate summons at the novelist's door than that with which he had recently bombarded O'Rourke's. His splendid but condescending presence was familiar to the neat-handed maid who opened the door. Mr. Farley, said the girl, was in his study, and was not to be disturbed except upon special business. Would he see Mrs. Farley? Yes. He would see Mrs. Farley.

He was shown into a bright little parlour, cool and quiet, which looked out on the sun-flooded garden and the space of open country beyond it, and was left there lonely for a minute or two. The march of his own thoughts, which were all directed towards a swift vengeance on the perfidious O'Rourke, set his feet marching, and he was tramping up and down the room in great haste when Lucy entered. He had tramped to the end of the room and had turned again before he was aware of her presence, and she saw at once that something had occurred to disturb him.

"The gyurl tells me that Forley's busy," said Fraser, "and I'll not ask ye to disturb him unless ye think fit. I'm doing a very unpleasant piece of work, Mrs. Forley, but it is my opinion that it deserves to be well done, and needs to be done. Can ye spare me two or three minutes?"

"Certainly," said Lucy in some wonderment.

"Let me hand ye a chair," said Fraser. "Now. Will y' oblige me by reading that?" And, indicating the column, he set the paper in her hand and retired to the window. He stood there for a little while to watch the effect of her perusal of the article, but before she had read a dozen lines he pulled the manuscript from his pocket and read with her, though he was pretty familiar with O'Rourke's satire by this time, and its phrases began to have little meaning for him, as is sometimes the way with phrases when read too often. He had gone through the whole article, and had found time to pick out the plums of it on a second skimming, before Mrs. Farley laid the paper on her knees and looked up at him.

"Will ye tell me what ye think of it?" demanded Fraser.

"I think it very ill-natured and unjust," said Lucy. She was as open as most people to Fraser's faults, but through them all she liked him, and the printed statement of them, though extremely witty, struck her as being pungent enough to be cruel. Perhaps if the things had been spoken and not written, with no chance of coming to their subject's ears, she might have laughed at part of them; but with the subject before her, and the knowledge that he was wounded by them, they stirred her indignation and pity.

"Suppose, Mrs. Forley," said Fraser, "that an enemy had written that, ye'd still think it ill-natured and unjust?"

"I should think it ill-natured and unjust, whoever wrote it," she answered.

"Suppose it was me dearest friend that wrote it?" he demanded.

"You don't suspect Austin of this?" she asked him, rising from her seat. Indignant as he was, Fraser laughed.

"No," he said, "and if I did, d'ye think I'd speak to you of it? No, madam. But maybe ye know that handwriting."

She took the manuscript he extended towards her, and had but glanced at it when she recognised it. She had seen it often enough in the days when her husband and the Patriot had been colleagues. Her sole answer to Fraser's question was conveyed by a glance.

"Will you ring the bell, Mr. Fraser? Thank you.—Matilda," she added when the maid appeared, "ask Mr. Farley to come here. Say I wish to see him particularly."

The maid retired.

"Ye know the hand, Mrs. Forley?" asked Fraser.

"Perfectly well," she answered. "It is Mr. O'Rourke's."

Fraser set his lips and nodded, being troubled by a desire to express himself about O'Rourke in terms unmeet for ladies' ears, and not daring to trust himself to speak. A minute later Farley, with his hair in wild disorder, a smear or two of violet ink upon his forehead, entered the room in slippers and dressing gown, and making out a visitor retired again with some precipitation.

"It is Mr. Fraser, Austin," said his wife rising, and moving to the door.

"Oh," said Austin, "I can face Fraser." He re-entered the room, and shook hands. "What is it, Lucy? The girl said I was wanted particularly."

"Mr. Fraser has just given me this to read," she answered, laying the journal in his hands. "I want you to read it, too." She raised her hand against Fraser, who was about to speak, and he obeyed the signal.

"Parliamentary Portraits," read Austin, murmuringly. "Home Rule Momus." Here and there a phrase was audible. "Combination of happy qualities. Dignity of spoiled toy terrier. Delicacy of rhinoceros. Member for Ballykillrowdy. Hillo, Fraser! This is all at you. Pretty savage, isn't it?"

"Go on," said Fraser darkly. "Finish the thing, and then I'll tell ye something."

Austin went on, mumbling, and Fraser following him and checking him off as it were by the original manuscript, pinched his lips together and nodded at the spicier phrases.

"What d'ye think of it now?" he asked, when Farley had made an end of his reading.

"It would have been smarter if the writer had disguised his animus," said Farley. "He shows his hand too clearly. It's a good plan when you're slating a fellow to do it as if you loved him. This fellow isn't content with stabbing you, but must needs knock you on the head and dance upon your prostrate body. I shouldn't care about it. Some enemy hath done this."

"That's the point," said Fraser. "There's the original manuscript. Maybe ye'll know the hand."

Farley took the little bundle, and had no sooner cast his eyes upon it than he dropped both hands to his side, and stared at Fraser with an expression almost piteous. He threw the pages down upon the centre table and began to pace up and down the room, pushing his hands through his hair and saying "Dear me! Dear me!" in a tone of real distress.

"Well?" said Fraser. "Ye see who did it? What'll I dew?"

"I should see him, first of all," returned Farley.

"I've seen him," said Fraser. "I'm after calling on him now."

"What does he say?"

"He told me not to make mountains out of molehills, and that was all he said, good, bad, or indifferent. I'll molehill the villain!" he concluded with sudden fervour.

Farley took to pacing up and down the room again, and his wife's glance followed him.

"Ah, my dear," he said, catching her look and reading it, "it is likely enough that you were right and I was wrong, but don't triumph over me."

"Austin!" she answered, rising and laying a hand upon his arm with a look of entreaty, "I should be ashamed to triumph."

"It's not as if he'd done it wonce or twice," cried Fraser. "There's eight or ten of the blagyard things been written, and all be the same hand. And he's been making a friend of me all the time, and on the very day this copy's dated, for he's stuck the day of the month on the top of the first sheet of it, I parted me last five-pound note with him. He's brought me the very things he's written. 'Oi think y' ought to see this, Fraser,' he'd say. 'Who is it, at all, that has his knife in ye like this?'"

"Dear me! Dear me!" said Farley, more dejectedly than before. "I always thought so highly of O'Rourke."

"At least," said Fraser, "I never took him for a traitor. I'd never have believed that until this day."

"I knew it a little time ago," said Lucy, who felt vindictively about O'Rourke, because of Angela and Maskelyne. "I should be surprised at nothing he might do. I am not surprised at this." Austin looked at her appealingly, but she either did not see or would not see. It was feminine justice to expose O'Rourke completely. A man who had been only half as good as she was would have spared him, partly, perhaps, because it would have spared himself. "He behaved shamelessly to Mr. Maskelyne," she went on; "and since I knew of his behaviour there, I have been ready to believe anything of him."

"What did he do to Maskelyne?" asked Fraser. "Barrin' the fact he borrowed money from him—and that's a thing that couldn't hurt Maskelyne much—I never heard of anything. And he told me that himself, for of course Maskelyne's not the man to talk of such things."

Austin walked miserably out of the room. At another moment this would have silenced Lucy, but she was too excited and heated to think of it.

"Oh!" she said bitterly, "it was not a matter of money—to Mr. Maskelyne at least. It was a matter of money to Mr. O'Rourke undoubtedly."

"That's a bit of a riddle, Mrs. Forley," said Fraser. He was going to hear further news of O'Rourke's perfidy, and the knowledge put him in a pleasant humour.

"Do you remember Miss Butler, at Houfoy?" asked Lucy.

"Maskelyne was paying his addresses to her," Fraser answered, hitting the right nail on the head without knowing it.

"Mr. O'Rourke pretended not to know that," she said scornfully.

"He did know it," cried Fraser; "for I told him so myself."

"You told him?" she asked in a heat of anger and triumph.

"I was certain that he knew."

"I'll tell ye, Mrs. Forley," said Fraser, "precisely what passed. 'Twas the very first time he ever set eyes upon her. She and

Maskelyne were driving, and they pulled up to shake hands with Dobroski. O'Rourke crosses the road to me—he and I had been talking with the poor old mad fellow—and says he, 'Who's the lady?' I told him, 'She's a great heiress, and Maskelyne's after her, as if he hadn't money enough of his own.'

'How did you know she was an heiress?' asked Lucy, 'or that Mr. Maskelyne cared for her?'

'Twas easy to see he cared for her,' returned Fraser with an unconscious wink expressive of great penetration. 'And as for her fortune, the village people spoke of her as a millionairess.'

Upon this Lucy told her own story of the Patriot's perfidy, and she and Fraser together abused him soundly until Austin came downstairs again.

'O'm not much in the way of knowing millionairesses meself,' said Fraser; 'but if ever o'ive a chance to speak a word to the American lady, ye'll see me put a spoke in Hector O'Rourke's wheel, I tell ye.'

'The only answer to a man like that,' said Austin, 'is swift forgetfulness. Let him go, Fraser.'

'Ah!' said Fraser, 'that may suit your philosophy, me boy. It isn't mine. If a man hits you, hit him back again. Let me see a chance, and I'll show ye how I'll take it.'

A ring at the door bell had excited little attention, but at this moment the maid entered bearing a card upon a salver.

'A lady to see you, ma'am. I've shown her into the dining-room, ma'am, thinking you might be engaged here.'

Mrs. Farley took the card from the salver, and still holding it in her hand in such a way that neither Fraser nor her husband could have seen it, even if they had been so minded, nodded an excuse to her guest and left the room in something of a flutter. The visitor was Mrs. Spry.

(To be continued)



NEXT to the "Greville Memoirs" in interest among the books of the season which deal with the private life of socially distinguished persons in a past not very remote, will be found "The Journal of Mary Frampton" (Sampson Low). The work has been capably edited by this lady's niece, Miss Harriot Georgina Mundy. It embraces the period between the years 1779 and 1846. The book is more properly a collection of letters than a journal; but it does not suffer on this account, as the correspondence is remarkable for its brightness and piquancy. We have in a letter of a Mr. John Newbolt a picturesque description of the service at St. Paul's to celebrate the victories of St. Vincent and Camperdown. The Bishop of Lincoln, who preached on this occasion, complimented Admiral Duncan not only on his qualities as a sailor, but also on his punctual discharge of his religious duties. "I believe," writes Mr. Newbolt, "the Bishop intended to have given the King a similar compliment, but as he saw him talking during his sermon he scratched it out." Mrs. Siddons carried her grand stage manner into private life in such a way as to produce a sensation of the ludicrous, more-over her knowledge would appear to have been, like Mr. Weller's "wisdom," limited. "At dinner time one day," Miss Frampton informs us, "she turned to a gentleman near her, saying, 'I am very ignorant, but I thirst for information; pray what fish is that?'" Another time, some one was relating a melancholy story of a clerk in office having suddenly died in his bureau. Upon which Mrs. Siddons said, "Poor gentleman, I marvel how he got there!" evidently not knowing the sense of the French word. Perhaps the Tragedy-Queen had a far-away sense of humour which thus found ambiguous expression. "The Journal of Mary Frampton" is anything but a dull book, and is sure, as it deserves, to be widely read.

The author of "Chronicles of the Schönberg-Cotta Family" is always an attractive writer, and she has evidently met with a congenial theme in "Three Martyrs of the Nineteenth Century" (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge). The three martyrs are Livingstone, Gordon, and Patteson. We do not know that the authoress has any new facts to add to those already known concerning these heroic-minded men; but as an accomplished *littérateur* she makes admirable use of the material at the disposal of every one. Her sketch of Livingstone, especially, is excellent, and she is well qualified to treat of the religious side of his character, considered apart from his genius as an explorer. As a specimen of religious biography in miniature, "Three Martyrs of the Nineteenth Century" is a pattern of what it ought to be. The healthy tone of a broad Evangelicism runs through the volume.

Major-General Brackenbury, C.B., has written a plain, straightforward narrative of the advance up the Nile and return down the rapids of "The River Column" (William Blackwood and Sons). The author succeeded to the command of this force on the death of General Earle at the close of the Battle of Kibek. The River Column was intended for the capture of Berber, which place it was designed to attack in conjunction with troops operating from Metammeh. The difficulties of the ascent were greater than had been anticipated. Moreover, the Desert Column, commanded by Sir Herbert Stewart, had monopolised nearly all the transport animals that were for some time available. General Brackenbury's narrative will serve to enhance, if possible, our estimate of the pluck and endurance of the brave men who did their best to punish the murderers of Mr. Power and Colonel Stewart. At the same time, there seems to be no insuperable difficulty in the path of an adequately officered and organised army meaning to reach Khartoum. The author, with the assistance of Major Colborne, who has contributed to the volume some excellent maps, makes very intelligible to the general reader this portion of our recent military operations in the Soudan.

No quality is more valuable in the traveller of literary tastes in a strange country than the ability to give a realisable picture of what he has seen. Some men have no sense of proportion, while others seem to be utterly indifferent to those precise points on which the curiosity or ignorance of stay-at-home folk might be satisfied or enlightened. Major Henry Knollys, R.A., has performed the task he has set himself very satisfactorily in "English Life in China" (Smith, Elder, and Co.). He conveys to us much useful information about Hong-Kong, Shanghai, Hankow, Foochow, and takes the reader up the Yang-Tse-Kiang. Major Knollys has a low opinion of the Chinese; their truth even, he asserts, is a lie. They are villainously dirty in their habits, and the odour from a well-washed Chinese child is unpleasant to the European. On this last ground, however, the Celestials also object to us. An English gentleman once asked a refined native gentleman why his countrymen exhibited so much reluctance to hold with the Caucasian occasional social intercourse. "Well," was the embarrassed reply, "we are many of us fully aware in our hearts that you are very wise, humane, learned, clever, and often very friendly disposed towards us. But, to tell the truth, there is one feature about all you English which we are totally unable to endure. We cannot at any price stand your *esprit de corps*." *Esprit de corps* is Major Knollys's euphemism for the more uncompromising phrase used by this sensitive disciple of Confucius. There is fresh evidence given here of the incapacity of the French for establishing prosperous colonies, and of the vast gulf which divides Eastern from Western civilisation. This author may be read with pleasure and profit by every one who wishes to gain

knowledge about the thickly-peopled lands and active commerce of the Chinese Seas.

The Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge publishes "Perils of the Deep," by the Rev. Edward W. Hoare, who has collected from various and reliable sources accounts of some of the remarkable shipwrecks and disasters at sea. Such a record cannot fail to appeal to that large portion of the English public which has relatives and friends constantly engaged in traversing the ocean. One striking feature in this record is the evidence afforded that some of the most startling maritime calamities might have been mitigated in their extent. It is not at all plain why more than one boat was not got away from the *London* before she foundered. In the case of the *Schiller*, which ran ashore on the Retarrier Ledge in the Scilly Islands group, during a fog in the summer of 1875, the inexplicable also occurs in a marked fashion. Three hundred men, women, and children were drowned, but a boat which would have held seventy people was washed ashore undamaged, and right side up. Here the mischief was caused by waiting till the ebb-tide changed to flood before attempting to use the boats. The sea making up with the flowing water caused a panic, and hence the dimension of the disaster. Mr. Hoare has chosen a good subject, and has handled it well. The tragedies of the sea, which from time to time in the last hundred years have thrilled with horror and dismay civilised peoples, demand permanent record, and "Perils of the Deep," apart from the ghastly attractiveness of its theme, has substantial merits as a book of reference.

It is an agreeable change to meet with a biographer who sturdily declines to give himself up to the indiscriminate worship of his subjects, and he is to be found in Mr. Charles Mackay, who writes "The Founders of the American Republic" (William Blackwood and Sons). The founders of whom he treats are George Washington, John Adams, Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, and James Madison. The work is rather a series of character sketches than of biographies. Washington here fades from the imagination as a hero. He is the worldly wise and "canny" student of "Poor Richard's Almanack," who keeps his eye steadily fixed on the main chance, from his pursuit of a wife till the close of his career. It is his common-sense, his pertinacity, and his shrewd business capacity, on which Mr. Mackay insists, rather than on traits of brilliancy, which were wanting in his mental constitution, nor does the author mention the improving garden story with which our childhood was edified. John Adams would seem also to have been a learned but consummate pedant. His amusing self-sufficiency and self-conceit are unmercifully pointed out and illustrated by Mr. Mackay. "Founders of the American Republic" deserves to be read for its admirable portraiture of the men who figured so prominently in American history during a difficult and dangerous time. Mr. Mackay concludes the volume with an essay on "The Dangers of Ultra-Democracy," which should be appreciated just now.

Fresh light is thrown on the later years of the reign of Queen Elizabeth and on those of the early portion of Stuart rule in England by Captain Charles Dalton's work, "Life and Times of Sir Edward Cecil, Viscount Wimbledon," two vols.: (Sampson Low). Viscount Wimbledon is best known to readers of English history by his failure in the expedition of 1625 against Cadiz. He seems to have been a brave soldier of fortune, who looked sharply after his own interests, and industriously used to further them all the family influence he could command. This influence appears to have been liberally at his disposal, and that it was weighty we cannot doubt, when we remember that Lords Burleigh and Salisbury were this somewhat greedy and grasping hero's near relatives. Captain Dalton has had the good fortune to have obtained access to the Cecil MSS. at Hatfield, and to documents preserved in the archives of other country seats of distinguished families. Consequently these two volumes are enriched by much original matter, which, while affording instruction and occasional entertainment, leaves small room for regret that our lot is cast in the nineteenth, and not in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. Captain Dalton merits praise for his industry and patient research, and the shade of Sir Edward Cecil might well hover gratefully near his apologist.

Mr. Ridley Prentice has edited, for Messrs. Swan Sonnenschein and Co., Mr. John Comfort Fillmore's "History of Pianoforte Music." The historical part of the work is excellently put together, and the sketches of the lives of the great masters are well done. The criticisms seem to be made with judgment. To all musical students this book must be useful, and will afford agreeable reading.

"The Three Reforms of Parliament, A History" (Fisher Unwin), is the title of a book by Mr. William Heaton, Editor of "Cassell's Concise Cyclopædia." The historical narrative is done exceedingly well; but from a Radical-Liberal standpoint, Mr. Heaton has known how, by a judicious arrangement of his facts, and by a discriminating selection of excerpts from famous speeches, to make his record of the three great Reform movements interesting. In the appendix at the end of the volume are the texts of the Act of 1832, 1867-68, and 1884-85. A careful index adds to the value of this useful book, which despite its avowed party leaning, will deserve to find a place on the book-shelf of every student of politics. Mr. Heaton is to be congratulated on a very neat and effective piece of work.



"THE PROPHET OF THE GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS," by Charles Egbert Craddock (Chatto and Windus), is unquestionably the most remarkable story that has been received from America for a very long time indeed. It is certainly as opposed to the undramatic analyses of artificial characters, forming the bulk of Transatlantic importations, as could well be imagined. The authoress—for we believe that the masculine name on her title-page is a very open disguise indeed—has been fortunate enough to find entirely fresh, and assuredly altogether natural, ground in the mountains of Tennessee. And she portrays its people even better than she describes its scenery, which is saying a great deal. What will in the first place strike the reader is the unloveliness of the human life led in the midst of such sublime surroundings. There is no suggestion of anything to sweeten life, and apparently little to ennoble it, beyond a grotesquely superstitious form of Calvinism, and a barbarous instinct of doubtful honour. Of course, such a condition supplies a strikingly effective background for two such characters as Pa'son Kelsey and D'rindy, or Dorinda, Clayce. The girl, a splendid picture of natural womanhood which should make the cultured sentimentalists of American fiction in general stare with amazement, is one of a half savage clan of illicit distillers who have "found religion." Hiram Kelsey, the prophet, is a born logician and metaphysician, who, never having dreamed of the existence of theological doubts outside himself, looks upon himself as the especial victim of Satan, "if there be a Satan." He is inevitably a complex character, and is dealt with something more than merely adequately, though we can imagine a still more forcible portrait of the man in more subtle hands. Some of the situations in which he takes part are admirable—as when he, a natural fighting man with plenty of the old Adam in him, meekly turns his other cheek to the smiter, and then revels in an ecstasy of spiritual pride and in the more complete vengeance he has thus taken upon his assailant. His whole portrait is as luridly touching as Dorinda's is bracing

and delightful in every way. As a story, the novel is sufficiently exciting, and reminds us neither in incident nor in character of any tales of rough Western life that have hitherto appeared. Moreover, there is real humour in the talk, of anything but the conventional American flavour, and to be enjoyed together with the dialect in which it is written—which is in itself racy, and sustained with remarkable consistency. The whole picture, as a study both of nature and of human nature, is wonderfully impressive, and shows weakness only in a propensity for word-painting.

Mrs. Lovett Cameron's "In a Grass Country" (3 vols.: F. V. White and Co.) is, as its title sufficiently denotes, a hunting novel. But the sporting interest which it contains is, to an extent altogether unusual in this order of fiction, overshadowed by its sentimental incidents, if such the troubles of Dick Gaskell can be called. That unlucky young man contrives to get into trouble with three women at once. Having seduced a fisher-girl under a promise of marriage, he engages himself to a former flame, the daughter of an earl, and then forthwith falls over head and ears in love with a really very charming young woman, whose only faults are that she is exaggeratedly horsey and has three detestable brothers. With these troubles the reader is expected to sympathise, and to rejoice when their weak-minded hero comes out of them triumphantly. He is relieved of the earl's daughter by her parents' discovery of his affair with the fisher-girl, of the fisher-girl by the expenditure of two hundred a year; and so is left free to marry Eve. Even the brothers are got rid of—one marries out of the way, the most detestable dies, and only the least objectionable remains. It is impossible to care for the story, or for its exceedingly hackneyed reflections on "a man" and "a woman." But it is written with spirit, and Eve is as attractive as she is unconventional. And no doubt there is nothing improbable in her throwing herself away on such a silly scamp as Mrs. Cameron has chosen for her hero.

"For Lilies," by Rosa Nouchette Carey (3 vols.: Bentley and Son), is a story of even unusual complication. To give the barest suggestion of its outline is out of the question, beyond stating that it seems to take a wise daughter to know her own mother, and *vice versa*. The old subject of a change at nurse forms the foundation of the story, with this difference, however, that in this case the nurse acts from altogether kind, generous, and self-sacrificing motives in substituting Lilies Marjory for Marjory Lilies. The title is exceedingly appropriate, for never did human being find the whole world so ready to do and sacrifice everything for hersake as does its heroine. Despite its over-complication, the story is decidedly interesting, especially as it is impossible to foresee at any given point what will follow—an increasingly rare phenomenon. The novel is well written, and the various characters well described.

"Dorothy Drake," by Frederick H. Moore (2 vols.: Hurst and Blackett), is, on the other hand, almost too quiet and simple a story, demanding special force and originality to deal with adequately. Grace of treatment and accuracy of observation, qualities of which the writer possesses both, go far, but not far enough, to ensure the success at which he aims. The result is a novel which requires to be read almost too slowly for pleasure, and in which the details become monotonous in their minuteness and simplicity. However, there are still a good many readers left who like to take their time over a quiet story; and for their tastes "Dorothy Drake" is admirably adapted. Some of the characters are excellent as highly-finished portraits, apparently from life. There are the three Miss Triundys, for example, who are both life-like and amusing—by no means a universal result of portrait painting; and the old Curator of the By-ord Museum is very sympathetically as well as naturally drawn.

May Crommelin's "Goblin Gold" (F. Warne and Co.) is not a successful contribution to shilling fiction. It is written on the usual shilling lines, in the matter of incident and sensation; but shows little of the courage that has to do duty for the originality which, of course, cannot be looked for every day. It is apparently addressed to an exceptionally omnivorous public—exceptional even for the novel-reading world.

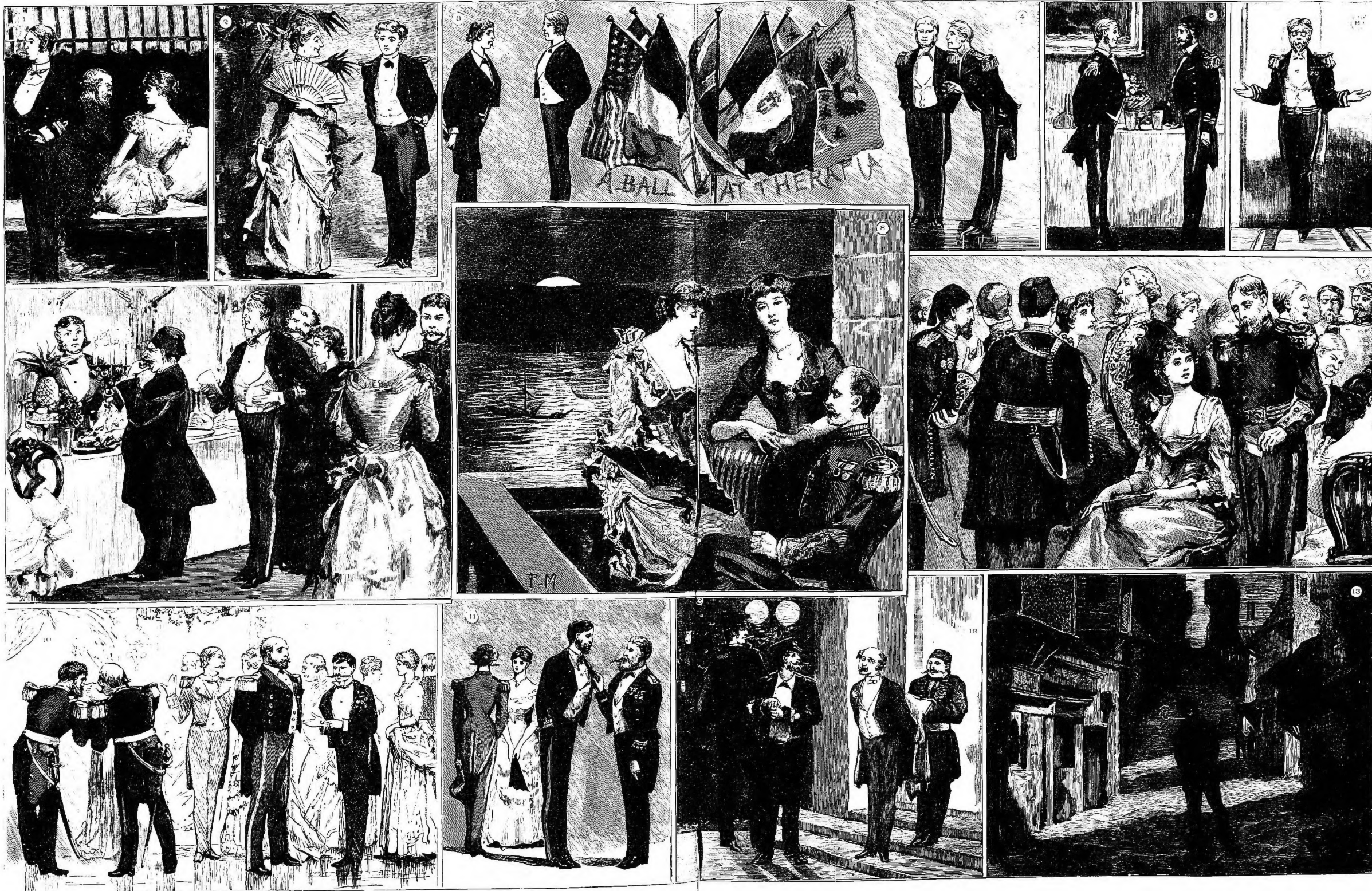


MESSRS. HARRISON AND SONS.—A very valuable addition to the library of students of music who intend to make it a serious study is Alfred Day's "Treatise on Harmony," a new edition of which has just been published, edited, with an appendix, by G. A. Macfarren, Mus. Doc., M.A., Cantab. This work is divided into two parts, and subdivided into chapters. Part I. relates to "Diatonic Harmony, or Harmony in the Strict Style;" Part II. relates to "Chromatic Harmony, or Harmony in the Free Style." The author and the editor were very intimate friends. When this "Treatise" was published in 1845 it met with worse than a cold reception from the hands of the musical profession. The disappointed author died in 1849, supposing his theory to be still-born, but after a time it was brought out in a cheaper form, and now it has been re-issued with some additions, and carefully revised by G. A. Macfarren, who has executed his arduous task with his usual skill and ability.

MESSRS. NOVELLO, EWER, AND CO.—A lively song with a unison chorus *ad lib.*, suitable for Christmas gatherings, is "London," written and composed by Francis Bennoch and Alfred Allen; this song is of medium compass.—Part LXVIII., Volume II., of the *Organist's Quarterly Journal*, commences with an elaborate fantasia on the ancient melody, "O Filii et Filie," treated in masterly way by Alan Gray.—Secondly, we have a sprightly "Allegretto" by Dr. W. Spark, Mus. Doc., signed May Day, 1885; it will prove a welcome addition to the secular *répertoire* of an organist.—Thirdly, comes an "Introduction and Fugue," by Dr. Jacob Bradford; a musicianly composition admirably treated.

MESSRS. BOOSEY AND CO.—A song which will deservedly take a foremost position in musical circles, private and public, is "The Soldier's Good-Bye," written and composed by F. E. Weatherly and Stephen Adams; it is of medium compass, for a baritone.—Three numbers of "The Cavendish Music Books," one of the most marvellous shilling's-worth of the age, are No. 84, "Twelve Songs," by Rubinstein, with German and English words; No. 85, "Eleven Songs," by Sir Sterndale Bennett and other composers, including Spohr's exquisite "Rose, Softly Blooming;" and No. 90, "Christmas Album of Dance Music," which merits the attention of the young folks.

THE LONDON MUSIC PUBLISHING AND GENERAL AGENCY CO.—Replete with pathos is "The Angel's Call," a song for the home circle, written and composed by Charles Millward and George Staker.—Lord Houghton's pretty poem, "I Wander'd by the Brook Side," which has already been set to music successfully, has been again appropriated by G. W. F. Crowther, who has composed a very pleasing melody for a soprano to these words.—"Joy Stars" is the title of a charming song, by Claxson Bellamy and Stephen Kemp.—A cheerful melody is "Coral Pearl," by W. T. Gliddon.—Of a more ambitious type, but equally to be commended, is "Bourrée in G," for the pianoforte, composed by A. l'Estrange.—"The Amaryllis Valse," by Charles Speyer, is chiefly to be admired for its attractive frontispiece; the music is wanting in originality.



1.—"Hang it, I can play Lawn-Tennis and Dance, but why the Deuce has Nature given me no Conversation?"
 2.—She: "The fact is we have too many rather Old People at this Ball."
 3.—Proof: "All jolly fine saying you are English; no one cares whether you are; but you don't somehow look

it." "Sir" (reproachfully), "I once furnished material for an article in the 'Times'."
 4.—"Now, Sir, I'm ready for an introduction to that Madam."
 5.—Two Representatives of the British Navy.

6.—On Arrival: "Ah! Ha! My Fren'; Good Night; Good Night!" (He means "Good Evening!")
 7.—A Group in the Ball Room.
 8.—Fighting his Battles over a Gin.
 9.—The effect of a "Temperance Drink" upon an Officer of Her Majesty's Navy.

10.—Greek Financier: "Ah! Ha! My Fren'; pardon me, but you have forgot your Decorations" (No, he had not)
 11.—"And now I have told you of my Decorations, and of them all about; of this with the Blue Ribbon of yours, tell me about it."—"Oh, mine is only for saving Life."

12.—"Are you Gentlemen going my Vay?"—"Oh yes, we'll see you're not assassin—" (is nudged) "we'll chaperone you" (and they did, for he was an excellent old fellow)
 13.—It being a fine Night, I walk down, but remember the Order to keep to the middle of the Road.

HOW WE DID OUR DAY'S SHOOTING

"Now then, remember, breakfast at eight sharp, and we start at nine: so don't be late, you fellows, because my uncle is rather particular, and he means to bag about thirty or forty brace of birds to-morrow." We were just leaving the smoking-room at rather a late hour, and our host, a keen sportsman of the old school, who by the way did not smoke, had been in bed some two hours already, and it was his nephew Lionel who gave us the parting injunction about early rising. Eight o'clock sounded rather terrible, but as we were none of us very intimate with our host, having been invited chiefly in virtue of being friends of his nephew, we all turned in with the firmest intention of not being a minute late the next morning. However, fate had something else in store for us, for when the footman called me in the morning, he announced that Sir John had got an attack of the gout, which would probably keep him in bed all day, but that we were to start as arranged the night before; and then added, whether by instruction or not I cannot say, that "he did not think Mr. Lionel would be down much before half-past eight." Half-an-hour's respite! How delicious! and in another minute I am fast asleep again, dreaming of partridges, and Sir Johns, and the gout in a definitely bodily form, all mixed up together.

When, a few minutes before nine, I entered the breakfast room prepared with several apologies and a hundred good reasons for having overslept myself, I found only one solitary occupant besides myself. "What, Lionel not down yet? I thought he meant to have breakfast at half-past eight?"

"He certainly said eight last night, and I was down here soon after," is the reply, in rather an injured tone. "However," brightening up, "I move now that under the circumstances we form a quorum and begin."

One by one, as the meal progresses, the rest of the party drop in, and last of all Lionel himself, perfectly happy as usual, and professing an amount of penitence which his face entirely belies.

"Awfully sorry, you fellows, for being so late, but the fact is I couldn't find my razors (oh, Lionel!), and then the governor being laid up, you see, I thought we might just as well take an extra forty winks."

And so it happened that it was not far off eleven o'clock when we sauntered out with our pipes in our mouths to where the keeper with the dogs was awaiting us. We were all in irreproachable get-up. Those who were proud of their legs wore stockings alone below their knickerbockers; those who were not could not understand how any one could go out shooting without gaiters, and wore them accordingly.

Now it was observable that, as we neared the keeper, our deputy host unconsciously dropped to the rear, as if anxious to avoid as long as possible the reproaches which he felt he deserved, and evidently expected. A hard, bony Scotchman was Malachi Greaves, with an iron-grey beard and uncompromising manner, and it is obvious now that he does not mean to let down "the young Squire," as they call him, very easy. When the latter is at last obliged to emerge from the rest of us and take the initiative, he affects a jaunty air, and hopes, by pretending not to expect a scolding, to escape it altogether. "We're not very punctual, I'm afraid, Greaves." "Ye're verra late, Mr. Lionel," is the reply, adding, "Sir John'll no be getting out of bed the morn, I'm thinking." Evidently implying that, if he had, the present disgraceful unpunctuality would never have been tolerated. After delivering this broadside he relents a little, and condescends to suggest, in a tone that savours more of giving than of asking for orders, that as there is very little coveit in the stubble, "we'd best begin wi' the turnips, though they're amaisht scanty enough." So to the turnips we adjourn, full of good resolutions, for we stand in dread of Mr. Greaves, and also hope to render a good account of ourselves to Sir John. Lionel especially cultivates an air of responsibility, and arranges his guns in line with a seriousness which would do credit to the tacticians who play the war game at the Horse Guards. Perhaps it is this that upsets our gravity, or perhaps it is that we have no person of authority to keep us in order, for our fear of the redoubtable Malachi has worn off since the early rebuff, but certain it is that, by the time we have walked the first few fields, a spirit of levity and chaff not conducive to good shooting has taken possession of us. A covey gets up on the extreme left, and two or three of the birds come right across the line. Bang! bang! bang! Three guns, two barrels each, and only one bird accounted for. This, instead of confounding us with shame, only produces roars of laughter. "On the bird, for a shilling," is now and again shouted, as they rise within easy distance; and it is only fair to say that in the majority of instances the bird in question amply justified the confidence thus placed in its immunity from danger.

By luncheon time we have only secured five brace of partridges and two hares, one of which had run the gauntlet of six barrels before succumbing. The very dogs look reproachfully at us, and remind me vividly of a little terrier that used to accompany me out rabbiting, and who, after he had laboriously worked a bunny out of a thick bramble, if I happened to miss it, which I often did, used to look up into my face with such a mixture of astonishment and disgust, that many and many a time I have begged his pardon out loud.

Mr. Greaves himself hardly knows whether to let his indignation or contempt have the upper hand. Reggie Manners declared to me in the smoking-room the same evening that he distinctly heard him say to the under-keeper, "They're jist a set o' claverin' fules;" but then Reggie likes a good story, and is not always famous for a strict adherence to the truth. Still no one can long withstand the young Squire's good-natured laugh; and the austere Scotchman, who looks as if he had never smiled in his life, can hardly resist a grin when he is told, with a poor attempt at seriousness, that "the fact of the matter is, we can't bring ourselves to shoot all the best of the birds, with Sir John kept to his bed, and not able to enjoy the sport."

Off we start again, and after some more decent shooting, during which some six brace are added to the bag, we succeed in driving a big covey into a bit of a coppice, whereupon it is agreed that the keeper and his underlings shall go down to the far side and drive them up to us, which, after assigning to us our respective places, they proceed to do. "Well, we've lots of time to wait before the birds come; let's toss for sixpences."

This is exciting; but a still more entrancing game appears on the scene. One of the party has a watch, on the back of which are figures of the Derby winners for the last five years, which revolve when the machinery is wound up; every person chooses his favourite, and the horse which is first past the winning-post when they stop, sweeps the board. In the midst of this engrossing amusement—whirr! come a brace of birds right over our heads, and three more a little further on. We rush to our posts, but it is too late; and the entire covey, broken up to perfection, escape us entirely. This is too bad; and we look rather sheepish as the beaters emerge, and we have to confess that there are no birds to be picked up.

"I almost think," says Lionel, "that we had better be working home, and have another go in at them some other day." Mr. Greaves is evidently of the same opinion, and we reach home while it is still early, picking up two brace and a half on the way. We find Sir John out of bed and downstairs, his attack having passed off rather quicker than was expected.

"You are home rather early," he says; "what did you get?" We leave Lionel to announce thirteen and a half brace, and to palliate it as best he can, while we stroll off to the billiard room and play till dinner-time; at which meal we get a good deal chaffed by our host as to the extent of our prowess; but he adds: "When you go out with me the day after to-morrow, if I'm well enough, you shall all go to bed at ten o'clock the night before; it's all that bad habit of smoking that prevents your shooting straight."

We had a very good day on the next occasion; and Malachi was fain to admit that "they're no sic bad shots after a', when they've got the maister to keep them frae faling."

CHRISTMAS BOOKS

II.

ANDRÉ's former coadjutor in many charming books, the late Mrs. Ewing, is sadly missed amongst the annual batch of fiction from the Society for promoting Christian Knowledge. Irreproachable in tone, most of their tales are undeniably dull, lacking that bright, sharp touch which seizes the reader's interest. This point is of some consequence, as many of these books would just suit rural lending libraries. Thus the improvement of the working classes is the favourite subject this year, most prominent perhaps in Laura Lane's "A Nineteenth-Century Hero," which deals with the principles of political economy and co-operation, and in Crona Temple's "Bound With a Chain," a sensible Temperance story. Here, also, are worthy examples of industry and self-sacrifice for working lads, the same lessons being taught by S. M. Sitwell's "A Great Revenge," and "C. E. M.'s" "The Mill in the Valley," whose heroes find that truth will out at last to the triumph of honesty. So does "Nimrod Nunn," whom the author of "Our Valley" cruelly kills just as he is happy. Death, too, is busy in the short practical episodes of everyday heroism gathered by Helen Shipton in "The Last Night," a heroism matched by the gallant career of the patriotic German author, Körner, which is simply sketched by the author of "A Queen" as "A Hero-Poet." Young servants may profit by Esmé Stuart's "A Little Place," or S. M. Sitwell's "Bright Farthing"—the latter briskly told; or be warned against hasty marriages by "Broken Hearts Are Still," by Phoebe Allen. Other volumes suit girls of a higher social grade. Patriotic feelings may be hurt by Esmé Stuart's unflattering representation of the English in "The Last Hope," but the story is nevertheless a very pretty love idyll of the Revolutionary days when Toulon suffered from a worse scourge than its modern affliction of cholera—civil war.—Love, again, is the potent force which converts the indolent dandy of Helen Shipton's "Cairnforth and Sons" into a useful member of society, and is also the main point of M. Bramston's bright, short stories, "Toads and Diamonds," and her portrait of the Quixotic young dandy who restores the family fortunes by managing a toy-shop, "A Woman of Business." And if a little sentimental, the love-experiences narrated by Austin Clare in "Two Ways of Looking At It," make a pleasant North-Country picture. Higher motives are aimed at by "A Wider World," wherein Crona Temple treats the missionary subject with much common sense. The little ones have their turn next, and small lassies may aspire to be "Daddy's Right Hand," like Annette Lyster's persevering heroine, or take warning by the escapades of "Foolish Dora," by the author of "Two Violets," while their brothers sorrow over the lost boys of "Goetz Jäger's Son," by "H. J. M. G.," and long to succour a dog like "Dandy," by C. Lowndes. Nor are chronicles of large families wanting, such as "The Oliver Children," by Mary Davison, and "Fearless Frank," by M. E. Gellie (Griffith and Farran)—whose *dramatis personæ* get into sad mischief during their parents' absence, or "Girlhood Days" (Griffith and Farran)—an unaffected tale of maiden friendships and experiences. But the most graphic chapter of nursery life comes from L. T. Meade as "The Angel of Love" (Hodder and Stoughton). Sweet, naïve little pickles are Miss Meade's baby trio, and as a neatly put moral is supplied in addition to T. Pym's graceful drawings, this merry record of childish pranks may be warmly recommended to parents and guardians.

A score of boys' works come next which fairly teem with sensational adventures. Has the boyish reader a taste for the ocean?—Let him follow the "Voyage of the Aurora" (S. Low), and revel in mutiny, pirates, and the woes of slavery in the last century, detailed with gusto by H. Collingwood. Or he can learn the ordinary incidents of a voyage on "The Briny Deep" (Griffith and Farran), from "Captain Tom," who is often prosy, and prone to sacrifice good taste to humour. Fact runs fiction hard in excitement, for Mr. James Payn serves up a highly-spiced dish of true marine disasters, "In Peril and Privation" (Chatto and Windus),—ghastly realities, some novel, some familiar; while travellers' true tales in plenty are tersely narrated in "Famous Discoveries on Land and Sea" (Blackie). This is a capital prize-book, like its companion, "Stirring Events of History" (Blackie), which ranges over a wide field. History further provides the framework for "A Soldier Born" (Griffith and Farran), where Mr. Percy Groves takes his hero through the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny to win a lovely bride and a lost title. The illustrations are most murderous, but the narrative is stereotyped, and over-laden with military detail. Now Mr. Lewis Hough's "For Fortune and Glory" (Cassell) is a thoroughly stirring war story of the present day, dealing with the ill-fated Expedition under Hicks Pasha, and service in the Sudan last spring. Mr. Hough knows his ground well, and has plenty of humour. The English meet a different foe in "The Champion of Odin" (Cassell)—the hardy Norsemen, whose warlike instincts have decidedly cooled down in the modern "Bonder." Gathering part of his material from old Sagas, Mr. J. F. Hodgetts produces a taking prose lay of early Viking prowess, imbued with a true chivalric spirit, and as full of slaughter as the "History of the Jews." Hardly less thrilling are the adventures in Southern lands, related by a tried favourite, Mr. R. M. Ballantyne. His "Rover of the Andes" (Nisbet) is as cheery and amusing as its many predecessors, deftly combining Indians, handitti, and earthquakes, with a dash of love for flavouring. Search for a long-lost brother is the basis of a lively narrative by Mr. Frankfort Moore who, after hairbreadth escapes, rescues the missing relative concerned in "The Fate of the Black Swan" (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge) from the cannibal head-hunters of New Guinea. These marvels of the imagination rather put in the shade the milder episodes of Australian life, "The Boy in the Bush" (Hodder and Stoughton), yet Mr. R. Rowe can tell of bushrangers, prairie fires, the gold fever, &c., in gossiping fashion, attractive to quiet spirits. It is a change, also, to take up a plain, honest public school story like Talbot Reed's "Follow My Leader" (Cassell). Here are the bad and good boys nicely balanced, the familiar aspects of school life presented in a natural and unaffected style, certain to win the lads' liking. There is some good stuff, too, in "Hugh's Sacrifice" (Griffith and Farran), by C. Norris—another school story of graver tone.

But novelty does not beat the old favourites out of the field, judging from the appearance of two fresh editions of "Gulliver's Travels." Mr. Gordon Browne's plentiful drawings are the special fresh feature of Messrs. Blackie's production—judiciously revised for young people—while Messrs. Nimmo's handsome edition, fit for the library, retains its original form, and adds an interesting brief memoir of Swift by Mr. Saintsbury to a mass of humorous coloured illustrations, very cleverly executed.—Another reprint, with several

new engravings, is "Child-Pictures from Dickens" (Griffith and Farran), containing the author's own word-portraits of such favourite as Little Nell, Smike, &c.

To return to the workaday world. Scotch humour is to the fore in "Katie, an Edinburgh Lassie" (Oliphant, Anderson, and Ferrier), who furnishes Robina Hardy with material for an effective character sketch. Uncouth Caledonia is more satisfactory to read about than precocious young America, although Celeste, of "A Generous Friendship" (Griffith and Farran), is contrasted with some pleasant girls, and is duly reformed in the end. The obstinate English damsel of "Cassandra's Casket" (Nisbet) has much to endure before she reaches the same goal, even causing the death of a loved companion; but Mrs. Marshall points the moral unobtrusively in her fresh Devonshire tale. A trio of novelettes for elder girls—"Through a Refiner's Fire," by Eleanor Holmes (Griffith and Farran), "Grace Murray," by Ella Stone (Nisbet), and "Silver Mill," by Mrs. Read (Blackie), illustrate the discipline of sorrow and steady work; while more romantic ground is trodden by Rowland Grey, whose various foreign sketches collected in "Lindenblumen" (Kegan Paul) are very gracefully written.

Somewhat out of the common is *The Bairn's Annual* (Leadenhall Press) which, under Mrs. Corkran's editorship, provides song, story, and picture of amusing description—the volume being got up in quaint old-fashioned style. Among yearly volumes also come *The Boy's Own Annual* and *The Girl's Own Annual* (Routledge), *Sunday* and *The Young Standard Bearer* (Wells Gardner), *The Day of Days* (Society for Promoting Christian Knowledge), *The Child's Own Magazine* (Sunday School Union), *The British Workman*, *Band of Hope Review*, *Friendly Visitor*, *Family Friend*, and *Infants' Magazine* (Partridge).

THE CLUBS OF OXFORD

OXFORD clubs may be classed under three heads, viz.: those strictly for the practice of athleticism, social clubs, and college clubs. The first class represents almost every form of manly exercise, from cricket up—or down—to bicycling, croquet being the only exception to the rule. The University clubs are supported only by the more shining lights, while it is the patriotic custom for all to join their proper college clubs, some devoting their personal activity to the cause, and less energetic brethren doing good service by payment of subscriptions.

Next for the University clubs of the more properly social kind; and first for those which boast a local habitation as well as a name, a qualification which all do not possess.

Foremost among these stands the Union, that is, the Oxford Union Society, whose especial features are its weekly debates, its excellent library, and its supply of telegraphic news. It has, however, the reputation of being a rather unsocial institution, and for this reason many men, who have not the ambition to shine as orators, prefer to join one of the smaller clubs, which are an especial feature of Oxford. These institutions are many and various, mostly located in the "High," the Pall Mall of Oxford, and possessing two particularly excellent characteristics, which could not perhaps be imitated by the institutions of larger growth elsewhere, in their supplying of afternoon tea and postage of all letters without a charge. The best known, as it is the best, of these is Vincent's, limited to one hundred members, election to which is a distinction sought even in these democratic days; of more recent origin are the Gridiron and Oxford Dramatic Club, the former, as its name implies, looking to the needs of the body as well as of the mind, an arrangement much to be appreciated in a city where a sovereign to the Proctor most probably has to be added to an undergraduate's hotel dinner bill; while the latter has succeeded the Philothespians, memorable for their production of *The Merchant of Venice*, and is the rendezvous of the dramatically disposed.

Besides these there is a group of school clubs, formed of old boys of whatever schools are represented at the University in sufficient numbers. These, as may be imagined, are mostly of mushroom growth and decay, and few, such as the Etonian Club, are able to boast any very long continuous existence. They are, however, pleasant institutions, especially to the friendless freshman in his first term, and they are often the means of keeping up school acquaintanceships, which without them might have been allowed to drop.

It remains to glance at what may be called the nomadic class of clubs, i.e., those without club-rooms, and possessing usually some special *raison d'être*. Among such must be counted the now historic Bullingdon, confined almost to Christ Church, and entirely to men of means; nominally a cricket club—its cricket bears to its convivialities the Falstaffian proportion of bread to sack; and in this direction it is followed by the Caledonian Club, which periodically calls together a select number of Scotchmen to make merry, and rejoice that they are Scotchmen born. A more sober type (the word is used in no invidious sense) is found in the political clubs, which, meeting in the members' rooms in turn, discuss the questions of the day together with the inevitable weed. These are named after the statesmen they admire, the Canning, Chatham, Palmerston, &c., whose modern successors they are often the means of bringing down to Oxford to speak at their yearly dinners.

Lastly, come the third class of institutions in which the social tendencies of Young Oxford manifest themselves—the clubs within and confined to the various colleges. Of these the name is legion, and a sketch of the most generally existent types must suffice here, leaving to themselves the eccentricities which are occasionally produced. College clubs may be either open or exclusive; among the former being always the Debating Club, usually a popular institution, and with as permanent a bias to Conservatism as is that of the House of Lords; and the Musical Society, to which visitors to Oxford at Commemoration time owe the concerts that are so great a feature of the week. Of the exclusive sort the chief are the so-called "Wine Clubs," whose members and their guests dine and pass a social evening once a week together, and whose names often refer more or less remotely to the good fellowship they create. Of these the most notable are the Phoenix and Octagon at Brasenose, the Falerians at Exeter, King Charles's Club at St. John's, Flickerers at Magdalen, and Myrmidons and Elysians at Merton; while the two Christ Church clubs, the Lodgers and St. Aldate's, fill the same position in a slightly different way. Outside of these there are minor clubs for the doing of everything in an orthodox, that is, a social manner; from the playing of whist to the reading of Shakespeare. Essay, Literary, and Discussion Clubs abound, and—to complete the list—an Archery Club still flourishes at one college, an institution of extreme antiquity, and probably without a parallel at any University.

Some prudent parent or guardian who reads this article may say, "What a waste of time and money must be caused by all these clubs!" The answer is that neither time nor money are wasted. The subscriptions are uniformly small, good value is given, and there is no possible necessity for a man to join more clubs than his means allow. As to time, this indeed may be wasted in clubs as easily as elsewhere, but—this is also true—as easily elsewhere as in clubs; and in conclusion it may be confidently asserted that, if a proper and moderate use be made of them, nothing in any man's University life is the source of half so much profit as well as pleasure as the clubs of which he has been a member.

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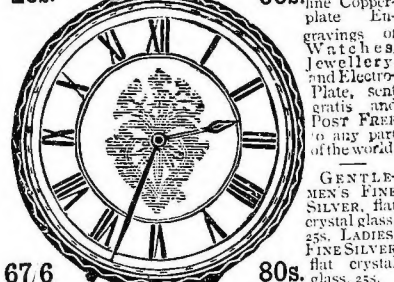
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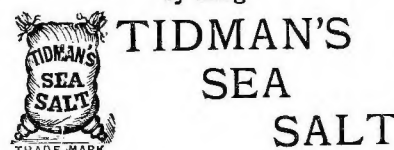
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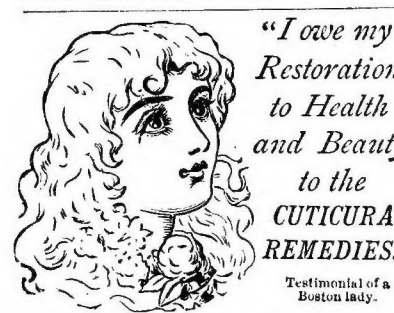
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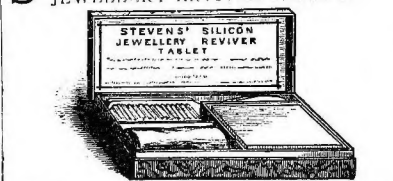
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